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the central role in combat actions. It is therefore absolutely clear that it is illogical to leave the personnel aside in eliminating disbalances and asymmetries in the basic types of armaments. To justify the need for reduction of tanks, artillery and armour, the platform of the NATO countries at the negotiations contains an argument which says that these three categories of armaments are fundamentally important for territory seizure and holding. One can agree with such an argument. But even to a person not versed in military affairs it is clear that it is the personnel which is the main element in "territory seizure and holding".

It is therefore to be hoped that at the coming round of negotiations the NATO countries will take a more sober stand on the problem of reduction of the personnel of the Armed Forces and make constructive proposals on that question.

Views Air Force Reductions

LD0309062189 Moscow TASS in English 0530 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (TASS)—Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS observer on military affairs, writes:

The issue of the reduction of destabilizing weapons will be of fundamental importance in the third round of negotiations on conventional armed forces which begins 5 September in Vienna. The positions of the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries almost coincide on the problem of cutting ground-force weapons: tanks, armored vehicles, and artillery. The levels to which they must be cut have been agreed on; the question of which specific types of weapon and combat equipment are to be included in these reductions remains to be solved. There has also been a serious rapprochement in the sides' standpoints on the problem of cutting combat helicopters.

Matters are more complicated with regard to resolving the question of cuts in aircraft. The Warsaw Pact countries propose that aircraft of the tactical strike air force be reduced, including "dual purpose" systems, in other words aircraft which can carry both conventional and nuclear weapons. Currently, the Warsaw Pact's strike aircraft number 2,783, while NATO has 4,075, in other words the West has superiority here. However, the North Atlantic alliance currently considers it necessary to cut all ground-based aircraft, including such purely defensive systems as air-defense interceptor fighters, which are not capable of carrying out strikes against ground targets. The "secret" of this approach lies in the fact that, given the fact that the Warsaw Pact has substantially more air-defense fighters, NATO's superiority in strike aircraft is "masked" in the total number of aircraft. This is being done to cut not strike aircraft, but machines which are not among the especially dangerous weapons and which bear no relationship to the original agreement.

In addition, judging by repeated statements by Western representatives, NATO does not intend to include the British and French aircraft designed for use in a nuclear and conventional role among the weapons to be cut. However, this, after all, directly contravenes the mandate of the talks, which particularly stipulates that no conventional weapons or equipment must be excluded from the framework of the talks for the sole reason that they can have different—in this case nuclear—combat capabilities in addition to their conventional, in other words non-nuclear, capabilities.

It would seem that in order to solve the problem of cutting air weapons both sides need to reach a compromise. The Warsaw Pact could expand the list of aircraft types subject to reduction, but it would, of course, hardly be logical to include air-defense interceptor fighters in this list. For its part, NATO could amend its standpoint on this issue by committing itself to reduce not only combat aircraft of the tactical air force, but also tactical strike aircraft, including "dual purpose" aircraft, down to some specially agreed sub-level.

Only this kind of approach on NATO's part would accord with the aims set out in the mandate of the negotiations: the elimination, as a priority, of the potential for carrying out a sudden attack and for conducting large-scale offensive operations. The exclusion of strike aircraft from the reductions, under any pretext and in any form, would undermine the fundamental principle of the negotiations: that of ensuring equal security for the sides. Under conditions where the imbalances in other types of weapons are to be eliminated, such an exclusion cannot be assessed other than as an attempt to obtain unilateral advantages for NATO and to establish them at the negotiating table.

Commentary Views Vienna Arms Control Talks

LD0409134589 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] And now comment from Aleksandr Pogodin on the beginning in Vienna of a third round of talks on reducing conventional armed forces and armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. Taking part in the talks are 23 countries of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization. It has lately become usual in general to express certain optimism before discussions start on disarmament problems, but forecasts for the new round of the Vienna talks containing even cautious optimism are based on realities not on the tradition. First of all it's necessary to take into account the outcome of the previous round in the negotiations, which Mikhail Gorbachev describes as positive. The structure of the initial agreement was agreed upon. The agreement, for one, will fix a number of equal ceilings for NATO and Warsaw Treaty conventional forces. The ceilings will be much lower than the present ones. The stands of the two sides became much closer on verification and exchange with [as heard] information. There are other areas where accord was reached to some particular extent, but at the same time it has to be stated there are also problems on which the views of the sides differ substantially. For (?one) there is no accord on troop reductions.

Chernyshev Previews Vienna Arms Talks

LD0109173989 Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—By TASS Military Writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

The third round of the talks of representatives of the 23 member-countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and of the North Atlantic Alliance on conventional armed forces in Europe is resumed on September 5 in Vienna. One would think much should be expected from this round. It can result in a considerable advance toward jointly working out the initial agreement on the reduction of conventional armed forces and armaments in Europe. However, unless substantial progress is made during this round, a serious blow will be dealt at the hopes for an early achievement of positive results in Vienna that have been expressed so far in the East and the West.

What are the grounds for optimism now? First of all, the smoothness with which the previous round passed, at which the Warsaw Treaty countries made a number of constructive proposals and then NATO countries, in their turn, came out with constructive initiatives that partially removed certain diferences between the positions of the sides.

As a result, the participants in the talks made substantial achievements. First of all, it should be noted that they in principle coordinated the structure of the initial agreement which is to include the following important provisions: the general permissible levels of the most destabilising categories of conventional armaments, the levels of restrictions of these armaments for each participating country, agreed upon geographic regions in which the most destabilising armaments are limited by appropriate sub-levels. It was agreed what categories of arms form the potential of a surprise attack and of offensive operations (aircraft, helicopters, tanks, armoured carriers, artillery).

Two other important circumstances deserve to be mentioned. What the present talks discussed was not the initial data on the present-day numerical strength of troops and volume of armaments, but the levels to which they should be cut. Such an approach, to my mind, favourably distinguishes the present forum in Vienna from the talks on Central Europe which ended without having achieved results. The talks at which the sides debated over many years on data but have been unable to overcome the impasse.

There are no differences of principle on matters of verification either. And these problems complicated the Vienna talks in the past. Now all participants in the talks, both members of NATO and of the Warsaw Treaty, are unanimous in the opinion that there is a need for the most effective verification of the process of reduction and of the levels of troops and armaments to remain after the reduction, above all on-site control.

All the positive changes in Vienna are a result of joint efforts of western and eastern participants in the talks. Regrettably, important problems which require urgent solution still exist.

Views NATO Stand

LD0209084589 Moscow TASS in English 0833 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 2 TASS—By TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev:

The next round of negotiations on conventional troops in Europe, due to open in Vienna on September 5, will have to do serious work to bring the positions of the sides closer. The question is whether the parties to the negotiations are ready to remove the differences between them. One of the most substantial divergences is the Warsaw Treaty's and NATO's attitude to reduction of the strength of the personnel of the land and air forces.

The Warsaw Treaty states are seeking a substantial cut in the personnel of these armed services down to 1,350,000 men from either side in the future. It is to be recalled that at the negotiations on central Europe a reduction in the personnel of the Armed Forces (but not armaments) was the NATO's main demand over 15 years. And now, at the current negotiations the NATO countries are actually "going away" from solution of the problem, paying all attention to reduction of armaments. Their stand envisages only a reduction in the strength of only American and Soviet land troops and the Air Force, which are beyond their national boundaries in Europe, down to a level of 275,000 men from either side. A reduction list excludes troops of other NATO member-countries, which are beyond the boundaries of their countries in Europe. And such troops run into over 100,000 men. The North Atlantic bloc so far is unwilling to set ultimate levels for the strength of the personnel either for the Alliance as a whole, or for its separate members, or on the territory of Europe, or in separate regions.

What explains such a NATO stand? This question was answered by the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST which wrote that the NATO military leadership are unwilling to think about serious reductions in the personnel of the NATO Armed Forces, since they believe that should the NATO forces are ever reduced, it would be difficult, and may be impossible, to increase their strength again, "in case of an enhanced danger".

At the negotiations some representatives of NATO countries said that the personnel would not be fully taken out of the process of mutual reductions. As one understands, implied are the contingents of the personnel which are to be reduced along with the armaments and military equipment which they maintain—and that is all. Isn't it also very important to reduce the personnel, say, in infantry units?

There is hardly any need to prove that the personnel is the main component of the Armed Forces, which plays

Many representatives of the U.S. public circles appraised this decision as a positive practical step in the right direction.

It should be recalled that in April last a group of laureates of the Nobel prize sent letters to Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush with the call to terminate the production of tritium used in nuclear weapons. And in July this year the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress urged the American President to begin talks with the Soviet Union on the ban on the production of plutonium and enriched uranium.

The termination of tritium production would promote further progress at the talks on the reduction of strategic offensive arms and would also lead to a gradual reduction of nuclear arsenals. The matter is that the rate of decay of tritium in nuclear warheads is about 5.5 per cent a year. Specialists estimate that if the agreement on terminating its production is reached, the number of nuclear wearheads in arsenals would be reduced by half in a natural way within approximately 12 years.

A number of independent American experts hold that full termination of tritium production could be announced by the time of the conclusion of the treaty on 50-per cent cuts in strategic offensive arms, and this would be a step to confidence-building and would emphasise the obligations of both countries to continue the process of nuclear arms reduction.

The resumption of tritium manufacture would attest to the unwillingness of the U.S. leaders to heed the voice of American public, to say nothing of the Warsaw Treaty calls. Besides that, making a decision on this matter could be a sort of turning point in the administration's policy in the production of fissionable materials for nuclear weapons. The Pentagon has long been demanding vast funds for the modernisation of the entire complex for the manufacture of nuclear arms, above all for enterprises for the manufacture of fissionable materials. So, apparently, much depends on the White House decision on the resumption of tritium manufacture. And first of all, this will make it possible to judge if present Washington leaders are really interested in averting the threat of nuclear war.

The NATO countries reduce the problem only to the armed forces of other NATO countries, a total of more than 100,000 men that are deployed on the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Warsaw Treaty countries find it illogical and unjustified for the NATO states to demand a reduction of all Warsaw Treaty combat aircraft, including obviously defensive fighter planes of the anti-aircraft forces that are not intended for making strikes on targets on the ground, and there are also other differences.

Arms Negotiator Batsanov Reviews Geneva Talks

LD0209172989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Geneva, 2 Sep (TASS)—TASS Correspondent Vladislav Shishlo reports: The summer session of the disarmament conference has finished work in Geneva. Summing up its results, S.B. Batsanov head of the Soviet delegation at the conference, in a conversation with the TASS correspondent noted that some progress is being achieved at the talks on banning chemical weapons, although it is slower than one would like. At the same time, he pointed out, it has not yet been possible to start serious talks on such important questions as banning nuclear tests and preventing an arms race in space.

There are several reasons for this, but the main one is the United States' approach. If in the spring it was possible to explain the absence of movement by the fact that the administration of George Bush was reviewing the whole range of national security questions, then it must be said now that the United States is not disposed to start serious multilateral talks on these problems. In sum, one gets the impression that the United States in this period has not been able to overcome its prejudiced attitude to multilateral talks on disarmament.

Dwelling in more detail on the problem of drafting a convention on banning chemical weapons, the Soviet representative pointed out that further progress in discussing its so-called technical details has been made. In this connection, he noted the necessity of studying them carefully, since the area taken in by the convention is very wide. It involves not only chemical weapons reserves and installations for chemical weapons production, which are subject to complete destruction, but also the wide range of peaceful chemical industry enterprises, which it is necessary to place under international control. Moreover, the necessity to concentrate on the few remaining major unresolved political problems, and in particular, on the question of checks on request, which are to be carried out at any time in any place or installation without any exceptions and without the right to refusal, is being felt more and more. Unfortunately, the United States has not yet given its clearly expressed agreement to such a principle of carrying out checks on request.

Recently, S.B. Batsanov continued, the twelfth round of Soviet-U.S. consultations on questions of banning chemical weapons ended. Its main achievement is the finishing of the drawing up of specific proposals on the procedure for destroying the reserves of chemical weapons and the facilities for producing them. Work on the proposals has been conducted over the course of a year and they will give important support to the final resolution of this problem in the framework of multilateral discussions. Useful work has been carried out on agreeing a package of measures of trust, openness, and mutual inspections, which will be carried out by the two sides even before the completion of the drafting of the convention with the aim of facilitating the final agreement of the convention.

The head of the Soviet delegation stressed that the USSR's position is not holding up the achievement of an accord on any question. At the same time, he noted, it is necessary for us to pay great attention to practical preparations for the participation of the Soviet Union in a future convention. The drafting of a national program for destroying chemical weapons, which must be carried out in conditions of glasnost and democracy, taking into account the ecological aspect of the problem, comes today to the fore. In this connection, it is necessary to draw lessons from the history of the chemical weapons destruction works in Chapayevsk, which was built without the necessary preliminary agreement with the local authorities and public. In order in the future to avoid such conflicts, S.B. Batsanov pointed out, it is necessary, in particular, to consider carefully the program for destroying chemical weapons and other matters of the preparations for our participation in the convention in the appropriate committees and commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Planned U.S. Tritium Production Criticized

LD3108203589 Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

A report in THE WASHINGTON POST says the U.S. Department of Energy decided to recommend to the administration to resume in July 1990 the operation of the nuclear reactor at Savannah River, South Carolina, which manufactures tritium for nuclear weapons.

Because of a number of circumstances, this report must undoubtedly catch the attention of the American and world public. First of all it should be noted that the Bucharest meeting of the Warsaw Treaty countries Political Consultative Committee (July 1989) clearly stated in its documents that the task of terminating and, in perspective, banning the production of fissionable materials for nuclear weapons is in the order of the day.

The Soviet Union unilaterally announced the decision to stop the manufacture of weapon-grade uranium in the current year and, in addition to an industrial reactor for weapon-grade plutonium, closed in 1987, to close two more such reactors in the current year and next year.

Warsaw Pact General Staff Chiefs Meet in Moscow

LD3108125789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1157 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 31 Aug [TASS]—A conference of the chiefs of the general staffs of the Warsaw pact member states took place in Moscow today to precisely define their position on the third round of talks on conventional armaments in Europe. A united position of the allied countries was agreed on all the questions discussed. The conference passed in a constructive and comradely atmosphere.

Agree on Arms Talks Stands

LD0109035889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0104 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] A conference of the chiefs of the general staffs of the Warsaw Pact member states to elaborate their positions on the third round of talks on conventional weapons in Europe took place in Moscow.

The united position of the allied countries was agreed upon for all issues discussed.

Rogachev Conducts Foreign Ministry Briefing 4 Sep

Reports on Cambodia, Indonesia, Koreas

LD0409151989 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—The first session of the international conference on Cambodia that concluded in Paris on August 30 is viewed in the Soviet Union as a major land-mark in the negotiation process on a settlement of the Cambodian problem, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev told a briefing here today.

The conference's chief result is the creation of a mechanism that is designed to play a significant role in the search for a compromise on the way toward a comprehensive political settlement around Cambodia, the deputy foreign minister said.

The main thing at the moment is not to let certain forces to take advantage of the lack of practical agreement on the settlement of the dispute in order to unleash a civil war and try and seize power by force, the Soviet diplomat pointed out.

With this in mind, Rogachev stressed, it is necessary to ensure the continuity and dynamism of the negotiation process. It is important to keep up efforts aimed at reaching agreements on putting an end to arms supplies to all Cambodian parties from outside. As for the Soviet Union, it is prepared to carry on talks on this score, Rogachev stated.

In reply to a question about the part played by Indonesia in the work of the Paris conference, Rogachev said that Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas who participated in the work of the first session of the Paris conference played a most constructive role, especially at the close when the text of the final statement was being discussed with considerable difficulties.

Speaking about the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union of Indonesian President Suharto, scheduled for September 7 to 12, Igor Rogachev said that the visit will begin in Uzbekistan, and then summit talks and meetings with Soviet leaders will take place in Moscow.

Commenting on a recent publication in the newspaper IZVESTIYA of an article by a Soviet specialist in oriental studies calling for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and South Korea, the Soviet deputy foreign minister said that the article reflected the author's personal opinion and not the official stance of the Soviet government on the matter. Rogachev stressed that the Soviet Union, while maintaining relations with South Korea on a non-governmental level, mainly in the trade and economic field, has no intention of granting that country diplomatic recognition.

The Soviet Union supports the proposals advanced by the government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic and seeks to actively promote the North-South dialogue in Korea, he said.

Discusses Bulgarian Turks, U.S.

LD0409153189 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—The Soviet view is that the first session of the international conference on Cambodia, which closed in Paris on August 30, has been an important milestone in the negotiating process to settle the Cambodia problem, Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said at a briefing today.

The session's principal outcome is to have set in place a mechanism to play a major role in finding a compromise way to a political settlement around Cambodia, Rogachev said.

The 9th conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned nations, which has got started in Belgrade, was discussed at the briefing by Sergey Sinitsyn, chief of USSR Foreign Ministry Department on Matters of Non-aligned Movement. He said that essentially what was at issue there was evolvement of a political course and a general approach to world affairs by over a hundred states expressing the will of the majority in the world community.

Sinitsyn said that, unlike many similar meetings in the past, the Belgrade forum was deliberating in a more favourable international climate. It was no coincidence, therefore, that its participants saw as one of their chief tasks a renovation of the movement's role in light of new international realities. Sinitsyn said that the relations between the USSR and the non-aligned movement were relations of mutual understanding and solidarity on many issues of world politics.

First deputy chief of the foreign ministry's information directorate Vadim Perfilyev has described the missile bombardment of the city of Kabul and the Kabul airport by the armed Afghan opposition on Saturday, as "another barbarous act". The bombardment, he said, resulted in casualties and damage to public buildings and a take-off-and-landing-strip.

The Soviet Union cannot remain indifferent to the terrorist acts by the Peshawar mercenaries, to bombardment of the international airport because such acts place in jeopardy the life and security of Soviet nationals, he said, reminding newsmen that Soviet passenger planes from Moscow and Tashkent land at Kabul airport. The armed opposition, Perfilyev added, must realise that it will have to accept the weight of responsibility for the consequences of the barbarous terrorist acts.

Questioned as to whether the Bulgarian authorities would erect obstacles in the way of the Turks who had previously left Bulgaria and were now willing to come back, Perfilyev said that in the USSR they knew of Bulgaria's readiness to receive the Turks in strict compliance with Bulgarian legislation based on the principles of the Vienna Final Act. He said that the Bulgarian side would wish other states not to erect barriers in the way of movement of people.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman reported the opening in Moscow of an American "Design in USA" exhibition. Director of the United States Information Agency Bruce Gelb has arrived in the USSR to attend the exhibition. According to Perfilyev, this was fresh proof of a stable and progressive development of Soviet-American relations.

Perfilyev Denounces Kabul Bombardment

LD0409140289 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—The bombardment of Kabul and Kabul Airport by Afghan rebels on Saturday was a "barbarous act", a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

The rocketing caused casualties and damaged office buildings and the runway.

Vadim Perfilyev, deputy head of the ministry's Information Directorate, told a news briefing that the Soviet Union "cannot remain indifferent to terrorist acts of Peshawar mercenaries and to the bombardment of the international airport, especially because they threaten the life and safety of Soviet citizens."

He noted that the Kabul Airport receives Soviet passenger planes from Moscow and Tashkent, with which Kabul is linked by civil air communication.

Perfilyev pointed out that "representatives of the armed opposition should be aware that they are fully responsible for the consequences of this barbarous terrorist act."

"In these conditions, a message from one of the leaders of the Peshawar 'seven', Mojadeddi, to Yugoslavia's president, demanding that the rebel 'transition government' that is doing everything to keep the war in Afghanistan going."

Those who supply the rebels with up-to-date weapons, give them shelter on their territory and prod them to new crimes against the Afghan people, also play an unseemly role, Perfilyev went on.

"Pakistan, which continues to grossly violate the Geneva accords and incite the 'transition government' to exert pressure on Kabul, is thus trying to block a political settlement in Afghanistan, dooming afghans to new suffering and economic ruin."

Perfilyev Holds Foreign Ministry Briefing 1 Sep

Welcomes Chad-Libyan Agreement

LD0109134989 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—"The signing in the Algerian capital of an agreement between Chad and Libya aimed at the solution of a territorial dispute between the two countries was met with satisfaction in Moscow", Vadim Perfilyev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information directorate, told a briefing here today.

He said that maintaining contacts with both sides, the Soviet Union urged them more than once for a patient quest for mutually-acceptable solution. "We are glad that the events develop precisely in this direction", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "We believe the agreement reached is a step in the spirit of the new political thinking envisaging refusal from confrontation in favour of a dialogue and settlement of conflicts in peaceful ways".

"The implementation of this agreement will promote the improvement of the situation in the region, the establishment of good-neighbourly relations, the channelling of Libya's and Chad's resources for the solution of problems of social and economic development", Perfilyev said.

Views Bulgarian-Turkish Relations

LD0109141689 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—Aggravation of relations between Bulgaria and Turkey is viewed with serious concern by the Soviet Union which is seeking to promote constructive dialogue between the countries and a settlement of disputes by political means. First Deputy Chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate Vadim Perfilyev told a briefing here today.

At the same time, the Foreign Ministry spokesman noted, the Soviet Union believes that attempts to internationalize the question of Bulgarian Muslims and to raise the issue at various international forums with the aim to bring pressure to bear on one of the parties can only hamper a just and mutually acceptable settlement.

"Bulgaria has repeatedly expressed readiness to start a dialogue with Turkey with the aim to normalize and develop bilateral relations, and we fully support Sofia's intentions," Vadim Perfilyev said.

"In the Soviet Union, confidence exists that a return of Bulgarian-Turkish relations to a course of good-neighborliness and cooperation will serve the interests of both nations, improve the political climate and promote cooperation in the Balkans and Europe as a whole".

Discusses Conference on Cambodia

LD0109142189 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—A wide range of conditions necessary for achieving a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict has been established" [quotation marks as received], this is how Vadim Perfilyev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry

Information Directorate, commented on the final statement adopted upon the conclusion of the first stage of the international conference on Cambodia in Paris.

Speaking at a briefing here today, he pointed out that the participants in the forum have carried out vast work, laying down a foundation for a comprehensive settlement.

"The decision to suspend the conference enables the co-chairmen to bring into play the mechanisms created by the forum for intensive consultations with all the participants toward overcoming the obstacles on the road to a comprehensive settlement", the diplomat added. "During these consultations it will be determined when the opportunity emerges to resume the conference to adopt the complex of decisions comprising such a settlement".

"Greater progress at this stage of the conference has not been achieved. The Soviet side, and now also many other participants in the forum, as well as Western observers associate this above all with the obstructionist stand of the Khmer Rouge, their efforts to torpedo possible arrangements at the conference with a view to solving the Cambodian problem by a military way and to a seizure of power in Cambodia", Perfilyev said.

Accuses U.S. of Violating Geneva Accord

LD0109145689 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilyev today accused the United States of breaking the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan by appointing a representative to the unlawful Afghan 'interim government' in Peshawar.

Speaking at a briefing here, he also criticised the special American presidential envoy to the Peshawar-based "government", Peter Tomsen, for making "brazen" allegations about Afghanistan and Soviet policy in relation to that country.

Describing the legitimate Afghan Government as a weakling, Tomsen has claimed that the USSR sends seven million dollars worth of arms and ammunition to Kabul every day and keeps more than 300 military advisers in Afghanistan.

Tomsen's assertions with regard to the Afghan Government are flagrant interference in Afghan domestic affairs and are completely at odds with reality, Perfilyev declared on behalf of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

After the Soviet troop withdrawal, the Afghan Armed Forces have not only successfully withstood the onslaught of the opposition, which is generously supported by the United States, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, for more than six months, but have also been hitting back hard, the spokesman continued.

"If the word 'weakness' is to be used, it fits more the part of the opposition that is attempting to usurp power", he said.

Perfilyev also stressed that there are no Soviet military advisers in Afghanistan and that the figure mentioned by Tomsen is an "ill-intentioned invention designed to justify continuing meddling in Afghan internal affairs by Pakistan, the United States and other countries".

The only Soviet officers in Afghanistan are the staff of the military attache's office at the Soviet Embassy in Kabul, he said.

Perfilyev went on to say that Soviet arms are supplied to Afghanistan under bilateral Soviet-Afghan accords and are by no means a breach of the Geneva agreements.

By contrast, the United States blatantly violates the spirit of the agreements by sending many millions of dollars worth of arms to the Afghan opposition through Pakistani territory, he added.

The "interim government", where Tomsen has been accredited, is itself unlawful and has not been recognised by the world community, and its functioning on Pakistani territory is a clear transgression of the Geneva agreements, the spokesman noted.

"By appointing a representative to such a separatist body as the 'interim government' in Peshawar, the United States has grossly flouted the Geneva agreements, of which it is a guarantor," he emphasised.

Perfilyev dismissed the U.S. envoy's claims about the size of Soviet arms deliveries to Afghanistan as "sheer fantasy" and said that "it would be better if, instead of making things up, the American side finally agrees to the Soviet proposal for the mutual termination by all countries of arms supplies to the warring sides in Afghanistan, naturally along with a ceasefire and under strict international control".

"We are deeply convinced that had it not been for U.S. obstructionist policy on an Afghan settlement and for U.S. backing to continued bloodshed and bankrupt rebels, peace in Afghanistan would have long been restored.

"If Tomsen's assertions reflect the position of the incumbent U.S. Government on Afghanistan, this can only be profoundly regretted," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Notes Alarm Over Japanese Defense Spending

LD0109154189 Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—The Soviet Union is alarmed at Japan's increasing military spending, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vadim Perfilyev told reporters here today, commenting on Japanese Defense Minister Juro Matsumoto's interview to the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI SHIMBUN.

Perfilyev said the interview was designed to justify Japan's growing military budget and a qualitative rearmament of its armed forces.

In his interview, Matsumoto spoke of a covert Soviet threat in the Far East, which was increasing both qualitatively and quantatively.

Matsumoto's interview coincides with the approval by the Japanese Defence Agency of a new military budget for the fiscal year of 1990, the Soviet diplomat said.

If the budget is voted into law, Japan's military spending will again exceed the constitutional level of one percent of the country's gross national product, Perfilyev said.

"The Soviet Union is alarmed at the growing military spending of neighbouring Japan. This is done under the traditional pretext of a 'Soviet military threat' against unilateral Soviet arms cuts, including in the Asian region, and will hardly contribute to the improvement of the Soviet-Japanese relations," he said.

Views U.S. Panama Policy

LD0209121189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpts] News agencies are devoting a lot of attention to Panama. [passage omitted]

This is what Perfiliyev, deputy chief of the Information Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning these events

[Begin Perfilyev recording] The Panama situation continues to be strained. U.S. President George Bush's statement has attracted attention. Speaking in Kennebunkport, he declared that the United States would not only continue the sanctions already imposed on Panama, but would also examine what else could be done in this sphere. More concern is aroused by the statement by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Eagleburger to the Organization of American States that Washington does not intend to renounce policies from the position of strength to attain a resolution of the crisis in Panama in its own interests, as well as by the announcement of the state of combat readiness for 12,000 U.S. soliers stationed in the Panama Canal Zone. Such an approach by the U.S. Administration which, despite the clearly expressed anxiety of Latin American countries andf the whole world, is, as before, maintaining policies of pressure toward Panama and virtually does not exclude the possibility of direct military intervention, can only be deplored. It is quite obvious that this is a very dangerous policy that threatens not only the situation in Panama and Central America, but also world security as a whole. [end recording]

TASS Rounds Up News Briefing

LD0109174989 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will head a Soviet delegation to the 44th session of the U.N. General Assembly to open in September 19, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced here today. Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy will be deputy head of the delegation.

At a briefing here today, Vadim Perfilyev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, commenting on the tatement of U.S. President George Bush that the United States intends to continue the sanctions against Panama, deplored this approach of Washington. "The U.S. Administration despite the clearly stated concern of Latin American countries and entire international public, continues to adhere to the policy of power pressure with regard to Panama and actually does not preclude the possibility of outright military interference", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "Obviously, this is a very dangerous course which jeopardises not only the situation in Panama and Central America, but also international security".

Perfilyev criticised the special American Presidential Envoy to the Peshawar-based "government" Peter Tomsen for making "brazen" allegations about Afghanistan and Soviet policy in relation to that country. Tomsen's allegations that the Afghan government is a weakling and that the USSR sends seven million dollars worth of arms and ammunition to Kabul every day and keeps more than 300 military advisers in Afghanistan are flagrant interference in Afghan domestic affairs and are completely at odds with Afghan reality.

Perfilyev also touched upon the question of illegal entry of foreign citizens in Afghanistan. As an example he mentioned the incident with French citizens Remir and Berjinot, who, together with a convoy of rebels, got into an ambush laid by Afghan security forces. (Berjinot was killed). Perfilyev also cited the case of Spanish citizen Jose Sanchez Garcia who was detained by tribal units on the road between Qandahar and Spinbuldak during his second illegal trip to Afghanistan.

"Afghan President Najibullah, the Afghan Government declared more than once that the illegal entry in Afghanistan's territory by foreign citizens run counter to generally-recognised norms of international law and jeopardises the life of foreigners, if they are within military units", the spokesman said. He noted that the security of journalists visiting Afghanistan is ensured by the Afghan Government and that there have been no fatalities during such trips so far.

The spokesman noted that the mission of the Soviet special representative to the Middle East attests to Moscow's growing striving to promote a political settlement of a complicated Lebanese crisis, the wish to prevent dangerous destabilising consequences for the whole region.

Perfilyev said that Soviet-West German consultations on disarmament questions were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on August 31. The sides discussed the situation at the talks in Vienna which are to be resumed early in September.

Touching upon the results of the Paris Conference on the settlement of the Cambodian conflict, Perfilyev said the conference had made it possible to establish the conditions necessary for achieving progress in future. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said the participants in the forum have carried out vast work to lay down a foundation for a comprehensive settlement. But greater progress at that stage of the conference has not been achieved, first of all because of the obstructionist stand of the Pol Pot clique, Perfilyev said.

Spokesman Praises Ties With Nonaligned Movement

LD0409142189 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Sergey Sinitsyn, head of the Non-aligned Movement Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, has qualified the 9th conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned states in Belgrade as an important international event. Speaking at a briefing here today, he stressed that it was now concentrating, in fact, on the elaboration of its further political course, on a common approach to world affairs of more than one hundred states, expressing the majority's will in the world community.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman noted that the Belgrade forum, as distinct from many similar past meetings, is proceeding in a more favourable international climate. It is not without reason therefore that its participants regard the non-aligned Movement's renovation in keeping with new world realities as their principal task.

Replying to pressmen, he said that the Soviet Union had till of late regarded the Non-aligned Movement as its natural ally. This thesis is no longer used in conditions of the new political thinking, which testifies to the Soviet Union's modified attitude to the movement. It has been deideologised to a certain extent. This finds expression primarily in the fact that the USSR has officially declared its recognition of the Non-aligned Movement as an independent global factor and its respect for the movement's principles and goals. Secondly, the Soviet Union has declared its recognition of the right of every nation and country to choose its own road of development. Thirdly, the USSR does not regard the movement through the prism of East-West ideological differences.

Sergey Sinitsyn stressed that relations between the USSR and the Non-aligned Movement were relations of mutual understanding and solidarity on many questions of world politics. Speaking of the voiced apprehensions that rapprochement between the USSR and the United States is apt to have a negative effect on the interests of non-aligned countries, he said that there were no gounds for such assertions. The Soviet Union, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed, is continuing its principled foreign policy line. There are no grounds for doubting the Soviet Union's principled approach to the national liberation struggle, too.

Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Meet in Yugoslavia

LD0209032989 Moscow TASS in English 2303 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade September 2 TASS—A two-day meeting of foreign ministers of member-countries of the Non-aligned Movement opened here on Friday in preparation for the ninth non-aligned summit conference to be held on September 4-7.

Opening the meeting, Budimir Loncar, Yugoslavia's federal secretary for foreign affairs, emphasised the need for upgrading the activity of the Non-aligned Movement at the present stage. He said that world processes should be taken more into consideration, that there must be a striving for the implementation of aims and tasks of the movement. Changes in the international arena can help the Belgrade conference become a milestone in the Non-aligned Movement and help it usher in the 21st century in new conditions of political and economic relations. New opportunities are opened to the movement and it might even make a fresh start, Loncar said.

On the first day of the meeting, the heads of foreign policy agencies discussed a report of the committee which was drafting a document on updating the activity of the movement, the committee headed by Cyprus Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou. It was noted in the report that the movement enters an extremely important period when the world situation, above all the new climate in relations between alliances and great powers, demand upgrading its forms to promote the process of easing international tension. The movement is as ever obliged vigorously to support and show solidarity with all non-aligned countries which come up against a threat of force, attempts at pressure and economic expolitation. The document says that international economic relations lag behind political relations and, specifically, expresses concern over the widening of the gap between industrialised North and developing South. Modernisation should be manifested in contemporary forms of cooperation within the movement, in enhancing coordination among its members.

The TANJUG news agency reports that the unanimous adoption of the document on the modernisation of the Non-aligned Movement is viewed in the diplomatic circles as an indicator that the new summit meeting will become a turning point in the movement's activity in the world arena.

On the same day the foreign ministers discussed procedural matters of holding the ninth conference, passed the decision to admit Venezuela in the movement (it became the 102nd member-country of the movement), endorsed the list of countries to participate in the Belgrade conference as observers and guests. The foreign ministers also endorsed the summit's draft agenda.

Non-aligned countries' foreign ministers started the discussion of draft documents of the ninth conference: the final declaration and 18 resolutions on political and economic questions. Reporters were told at a briefing that a debate on the draft declaration proceeds in a constructive atmosphere and that its participants support its concept as a whole, though there are specific proposals and remarks on several points.

Further on Meeting

LD0309105489 Moscow TASS in English 0856 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade September 3 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Vladimir Baydashin, Anatoliy Bocharov and Viktor Kuznetsov:

A non-aligned foreign ministers' meeting ended here late last night with the adoption of a draft declaration of the Ninth Non-Aligned Summit Conference which is to be held in the Yugoslav capital on September 4-7.

The foreign ministers' meeting was held within the framework of direct preparation for the summit. The foreign ministers focused their attention on draft documents of the forthcoming summit: A 'Final Declaration' and 18 resolutions on political and economic issues.

Their discussion, which was held behind closed doors, acquired the nature of a general debate, it was pointed out at a briefing.

The meeting is viewed here as a desire for a constructive exchange of views in the name of elaborating balanced and qualitative documents of the Belgrade summit.

The participants in the discussion raised key matters concerning the present-day international political and economic situation and laying emphasis on the place and role of the Non-aligned Movement in the conditions of relaxation of tensions.

They emphasised that dialogue should now become the main method for behaviour in the international arena and for solutions to global problems.

Many speeches were keynoted by the idea that the non-aligned countries should not stay aloof from the process of relaxation of tension but should actively join it as equal partners.

The draft declaration, worked out by Yugoslavia as the host country, was supported by practically all speakers. They pointed out that the suggested text reflected the need to refine and stimulate the movement's activities and raise its effectiveness.

At the same time there were also critical and polemic tones during the discussion, which, analysts point out, was called forth mainly by differences of emphases which arise from the specifics of individual regions and counties of the movement.

Specifically, some delegations stated that the draft declaration conveyed an overoptimistic view of the process of relaxation of tensions, of its impact, and of its importance to the non-aligned countries. Such evaluations are connected first of all with the opinion that relaxation of tensions has not so far brought tangible results in the sphere of international economic relations.

Some speakers stated that draft final documents condemned imperialism's and neocolonialism's actions, which the developing countries still have to encounter, not vigorously enough.

The exchange of views at the foreign ministers' meeting is regarded among diplomatic circles as constructive while the dilemmas that arose during the drafting of the final documents of the ninth summit conference are viewed as a normal phenomenon, considering such a large group of countries with various social systems, international positions and interests, the TANJUG news agency reports.

Gorbachev Greets Nonaligned Summit Conference

LD0309120789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 89 Second Edition p 1

["Full text" of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's message to Janez Drnovsek, chairman of the 9th Nonaligned Summit Conference in Belgrade]

[Text] Let me sincerely greet the heads of the nonaligned states, who have met in the Yugoslav capital for a summit forum of one of the most representative and authoritative political movements of the times.

In our contradictory but single and interrelated world, the constructive potential of the Nonaligned Movement promotes understanding and the establishment of common human values in the practice of interstate relations, and helps restrain attempts to resort to diktat and violence and whip up strife and alienation.

The nonaligned states have contributed significantly to the strengthened confidence and optimism with which mankind is entering the last decade of the 20th century.

The Soviet Union is open for dialogue and interaction with each nonaligned state and with the movement as a whole.

We share the adherence of nonaligned countries to the idea of building a new international order based on the primacy of law and unconditional respect for the sovereignty and freedom of choice, which would ensure a worthy place in the world community for all nations.

There is, perhaps, no task more topical than making irreversible and nascent the process of real disarmament, strengthening confidence and mutual understanding between countries, and searching for solutions to international disputes through negotiations on the basis of balance of interests.

The political settlement of dangerous regional conflicts, in which the Nonaligned Movement plays an important role and can play an even more constructive role, is of much importance for increasing the scale and peace of this process.

We are ready for cooperation with all wishing it, in building a world that would be free from nuclear weapons, from foreign military bases and confronting military blocs, a world in which the use of armed or any other violence in international relations would be ruled out.

The Soviet Union is deeply aware of intolerance of the situation in which, in conditions of underdevelopment, millions of people are doomed to suffering and eke out a living that is unworthy of man.

The solution of this explosive problem must become a concern of the whole of mankind. We are convinced that the gap between the rich and the poor can only be overcome by joint North-South and East-West efforts.

In the Soviet Union, the Nonaligned Movement has a reliable partner in the campaign against the environmental threat which is looming large over our civilization.

The Soviet Union is convinced that our joint support for the United Nations and the further strengthening of its role as a universal instrument of peace, confidence, and international cooperation will help achieve these noble tasks.

Let me wish your conference success.
[Signed] Mikhail Gorbachev

Nonaligned Summit Conference Opens 4 Sep

LD0409203889 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade September 4 TASS—By TASS special correspondents Vladimir Baydashin, Anatoliy Bocharov and Viktor Kuznetsov:

The participants of the Belgrade conference of the Nonaligned Movement, which opened today, showed great interest in the message Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev sent Janez Drnovsek, president of the 9th Conference of Heads of State and Government of Nonaligned Countries. This is borne out by statements made by representatives of different countries with whom the TASS correspondents meet in the lobbies.

The official representative of the Union Secretariat for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia said his country highly appreciated the Soviet leader's interest in the 9th conference. Most of the issues raised in Gorbachev's message will become the chief topic for discussion at the forum. The Soviet Union is a major partner of most nonaligned countries, and Yugoslavia appreciates the expressions of readiness for further cooperation in the pursuit of common aspirations.

President Gorbachev's message accords with the spirit of the principal objectives of the Nonaligned Movement and presents the world situation realistically, said R.K. Mishrak, prominent Indian publicist and editor-in-chief of "THE PATRIOT" newspaper. The message, undoubtedly, would evoke wide response and understanding of the conference participants.

The conference was opened by Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe who represents a country that has been coordinator of the Nonaligned Movement in the period between the preceding forum in Harare and the present one. In summing up the movement's activity for the past three years, he said that the international situation was gradually changing for the better, presenting "new possibilities and prospects, giving rise to hopes for a future kinder and gentler world". The nonaligned nations may take pride in their contribution to the development of international cooperation, peace, freedom and progress.

Robert Mugabe said that serious economic problems still placed a crushing burden on the developing nations. The causes of this situation lie in the disparities and contradictions of the international economic order, especially in the North-South relations. The problem of external indebtedness, now amounting to 1,300 billion, remains a bleeding wound for the nonaligned countries. Mankind needs peace, and above all real disarmament, to resolve global economic problems. In this connection Mugabe pointed out the positive effect exerted by the detente between the USSR and the USA on the activity of the Nonaligned Movement.

On Mugabe's proposal, Janez Drnovsek, chairman of Yugoslavia's collective presidency, was unanimously elected the ninth conference's president.

The objective of the conference, he said, is to identify priority activities for the Nonaligned Movement in the short-term period. The movement's strategic tasks remain unchanged: They are peace and international security, vigorous actions to strengthen the process of disarmament that has got under way. We must work with renewed energy to eliminate pockets of crisis and solve contentious issues by peaceful means. The problems of environmental protection and observance of human rights assume growing importance. Economic problems, and above all the creation of conditions for a balanced economic and technological development of all countries, also require greater attention. Special efforts ought to be applied to solve problems of external indebtedness. There is a growing urgency to the need to establish a new dialogue between the developed and developing nations and convening, with this aim in mind, a summit conference of north and south representatives.

The United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar also addressed the forum with a message of greetings. The 9th conference, he said, assumes special importance in the light of positive changes in the international arena. The principal changes have been the Soviet-American talks on arms reductions and confidence building between the two powers which are militarily the mightiest. The Nonaligned Movement is now facing constructive challenges of resolving the world's problems, including the settlement of regional conflicts, assisting in an easing of tension in international relations, protection of environment and combatting the spread of narcotic drugs. The U.N. secretary general wished the conference successful deliberations and expressed the hope that its decision would become historic.

Ilichev's NOVOSTI Interview on Nonaligned Cited

LD2808151189 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1214 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, Aug 28 (TANJUG)—The choice of Yugoslavia as the host of the Ninth Nonaligned Summit, which automatically entails its chairmanship of the movement, is primarily an act of recognition of Yugoslavia's constructime foreign policy, Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev said prior to the summit, in an interview to the Soviet news agency NOVOSTI.

Ilichev conveyed Moscow's best wishes for the success of the Belgrade conference, as well as its hope that the summit would mark a "major turning point in the movement's activity." One of the main paths in the modernization of the Nonaligned Movement is the shift from opposing the two super powers to launching dialogue with them based on equal partnership, the Soviet deputy foreign minister said, adding that the Soviet Union "recognized the independent character of the Nonaligned Movement at top level.

Dialogue and cooperation, which the United States and the Soviet Union launched on a number of issues, as well as other positive trends on the international scene, also affect favourably the situation within the Nonaligned Movement, Ilichev said. This inspires the movement's members to "seek adequate answers to life's demands and fight for working out more constructive positions and more effective solutions independently of the political orientation and ideological views."

We are convinced that the nonaligned at their Belgrade summit will focus their attention to resolving the major problems of modern mankind, Ilichev said, pointing out the problems of nuclear danger and disarmament, as well as the abolition of block division and military bases on foreign territories.

The Soviet Union also fully supports the Nonaligned countries' demand for the removal of economic inequality, the Soviet diplomat concluded, noting that the nonaligned Movement could also give a major contribution to settling regional conflicts, especially those involving its members.

Deputy Members of Soviet UN Delegation Named

LD0109152189 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will head a Soviet delegation to the 44th session of the U.N. General Assembly to open on September 19, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced here today. Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy will be deputy head of the delegation.

The Soviet delegation also comprises: Aleksandr Belonogov, permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, Lakim Kayumov, foreign minister of Tajikistan, and Valeriya Kalmyk, vice-president of the Soviet Women's Committee.

There are also deputy members of the delegation: Boris Pyadyshev, editor-in-chief of INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS JOURNAL, Andrey Kozyrev, head of the Directorate for International Organisations at the Foreign Ministry, Ernest Obminskiy, head of the Directorate for International Economic Relations at the Foreign Ministry, Valentin Lozinskiy, first deputy permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, and Sergey Basanov, representative of the USSR to the Geneva disarmament conference.

Mass Defection of GDR Citizens Said 'Staged'

PM0109153589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 89 Second Edition p 5

[Article by M. Podklyuchnikov under the rubric "Behind the Scenes": "Hour of Hypocrites"]

[Text] Berlin, Aug—The production was excellent: Everyone who was watching the West German TV channel at the time could see a crowd of enraged people running somewhere. The announcer explained that these were 300 GDR citizens vacationing in Hungary who, having discovered a weak spot on the Hungarian-Austrian border, had rushed to cross over to the "free world."

Naive people might have taken it all at face value. The more sophisticated asked quite reasonably just how it was that Western TV correspondents and West German press photographers had happened to be in that very spot at that very time.

The GDR public is now learning of more and more cases which, like a mosaic, are building up into an integrated picture. It shows just who the producers were who staged this "flight across the border" and what their aim was in so doing.

The German socialist state is preparing to celebrate its 40th anniversary. The approaching date will make it possible to feel once again just what an important role the GDR plays on our continent.

Those people in the West who still refuse to accept the fact of the existence of two German states are looking for ways to besmirch the republic of German working people on the threshold of its 40th anniversary and to distort its image in the eyes of the world public. The picture formed from the mosaic of facts shows that a major provocation against the GDR has been staged on the Hungarian-Austrian border.

The pretext for this was a so-called "pan-European picnic" organized near Sopron. The term sounds quite attractive and harmless. A "picnic"—who would be disturbed by that? In fact the planned event was in no way a well-intentioned harmless meeting. One need only familiarize oneself with those making up the "pan-European association" which staged this "national costume and wind instrument festival." The list of participants is eloquent: the West German League of Expellees, the Association of Compatriots, the neofascist "Vitikobund" [name as transliterated], and numerous anticommunist emigre associations. The figure of the president of the "pan-European association"—Otto von Habsburg, the "heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne"—also tells us a great deal. He has never made any secret of his anticommunist views. His program is a "Greater Europe up to the Urals."

The identity of the organizer of the "spontaneous escape" has now become known. A considerable amount of preparatory work was done behind the scenes. The West German newspapers, radio, and TV extensively advertised the "picnic" beforehand. Fliers indicating when and where people should assemble were distributed among GDR citizens vacationing in Hungary (according to Western press estimates, there were 200,000-250,000 of them). A correspondent for the Springer newspaper BILD himself traveled around camp sites seeking out people prepared to take part in the show. On 20 August AP reported that "observers in Budapest believe that the mass escape was prepared down to the last minute." West German official institutions were kept informed about the affair. Thus, the FRG Embassy in Vienna sent buses to wait for the "refugees" at the border and arranged for a train to take the "picnickers" to the FRG. West German passports were even prepared beforehand.

It can be said that the path of many of those who took part in the show will by no means be a rosy one. The West German press writes openly about this. There are 25,000 unemployed among former GDR citizens who have illegally crossed into the FRG in the past. The magazine STERN gives the following figure: 40 percent of tramps in Hamburg are settlers from the GDR who have fallen to the bottom of the West German heap.

The provocative scene on the border went ahead. The FRG mass media, as certain GDR press reports noted, gave it "front-page coverage." When they were short of facts, lies were added. The GDR, for instance, had to officially deny Western reports that henceforth it will make it harder for its citizens to vacation in Hungary.

"Once again it is the hour of hypocrites in the FRG," the newspaper JUNGE WELT wrote. "They preach sermons about human rights while at the same time using people for their shameful games. They make a great fuss of pointing to the Helsinki Final Act while simultaneously treating it as an empty piece of paper, claiming a 'duty to take care of' another country's citizens, giving them passports, and refusing to recognize GDR citizenship. Some of our country's citizens have allowed themselves to be used in this show, but that does not make the phrases coming out of Bonn any more truthful."

Scholar Analyzes Quadripartite Berlin Agreement

LD0209145389 Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 2 TASS—The quadripartite agreement on West Berlin patently illustrates that provided due account for political realities it is possible to constructively develop the earlier reached accords, Professor Vladimir Shinayev, deputy director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Institute of Europe, believes.

Commenting, at the request of the TASS world service, on the significance of the document, signed on September 3, 1971, the Soviet scientists said that the agreement was a kind of a correction of the Potsdam agreements which are known to have stemmed from the fact of the existence of a unified Berlin. But political realities changed after 1945: Two German states were formed, and West Berlin became a focal point of problems, both political and economic.

The quadripartite agreement substantially defused the tension by providing the international legal ground for the fact of the existence of two Berlins—the capital of the GDR and West Berlin. It also noted that West Berlin has a special status and is not part of West Germany.

A positive role was played by the signing of the Moscow Treaty between the USSR and West Germany in August 1970 which reaffirmed the territorial-political realities in Europe after the Second World War.

The normalisation of the West Berlin situation favourably affected the political climate in Europe and the relations between the two German states. The GDR and the FRG signed on December 17, 1971 an agreement on transit communication, and a year later—the Treaty on Basic Principles of Relations.

If the Potsdam agreements were developed in September 1971, the realities which concern the so-called "German question" could also be taken into account in the future, Shinayev believes. But it would be wrong to think that this "question" involves the GDR and the FRG alone. It can be solved only after materialising the concept of an all-European home, i.e. creation in the continent of a climate of confidence, cooperation and security, the Soviet scientist stressed.

United States & Canada

Bush's Call for Restraint on Baltics Shunned

PM3108192089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Sep 89 Second Edition p 7

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "G. Bush's Opinion"]

[Text] Washington, 31 Aug—According to reports from the President's estate in the resort of Kennebunkport, Maine, G. Bush has called on "Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to display restraint in response to the Baltic republics' demands for greater independence." Bush issued this call following a meeting with R. Dole, Republican minority leader in the Senate, and his wife, U.S. Secretary of Labor E. Dole, who have just returned from a trip including visits to the Soviet Union and Poland. Having described Moscow's attitude as full of "extraordinary understanding and certainly having nothing in common with militancy," the President said: "I hope that the tone will remain the same now, when fast-moving changes in East Europe continue their advance not only in Poland but also in other countries. I must say that the way Gorbachev treated and responded to all this was very positive...."

There are at least two possible appraisals of such statements by the head of the Washington administration. The initial reaction is obvious: Who in Moscow needs the U.S. President's advice? We need no compliments, either. Everything we do is for ourselves and for our own sake, actually guided by universal considerations and values.

U.S. Titan Rocket Launched With 'Secret Payload'

LD0409082389 Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] New York September 4 TASS—The U.S. Air Force launched a secret payload atop a Titan 34D rocket on Monday from Cape Canaveral, Florida state. Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Rand, USAF spokesman, said after the lift-off that the rocket functioned normally according to the schedule.

Journalists were not given any detailed information, since the launch was made under the Pentagon's programme. However, according to experts, the rocket is to put into orbit either a couple of military radio relay stations or a spy satelite.

The 34D series, the last unmanned launch vehicle in the USAF inventory, has been superseded by the more powerful Titan 4 series. At least 23 new rockets are now being manufactured by the Martin Marietta Corporation on a Pentagon order. This work is conducted under a programme, unprecedented for its scale, which will ensure the Pentagon "a guaranteed chance to enter space", irrespective of manned space shuttle flights.

Shevardnadze To Meet Baker 22-23 Sep

LD0409114289 Moscow TASS in English 1137 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will meet U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on September 22 and 23 in the United States, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told TASS.

Upcoming Visit Discussed

LD0509060889 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his United States' colleague James Baker will meet at Jackson, Wyoming for 2 days later this month. Vladislav Kozyakov comments:

[Kozyakov] The agenda, as reports say, will be packed indeed, ranging from disarmament, regional conflicts, and bilateral cooperation to such a new questions as efforts to off-set terrorism and drug trafficking. To prepare the meeting, Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh visited Washington last month, and a group from Moscow is due in Washington next week to work out an agreement for human rights. The agreement is to be signed in Wyoming.

A new situation has taken shape in human rights. This country can no longer be blamed for hindering emigration, but the United States has refused many emigrants. These changes affect trade as well as humanitarian exchange. The United States imposed its trade restrictions over the emigration rules the Soviet Union has already lifted.

Arms reduction and limitation no doubt remain key problems. Our two nations have drawn closer together at the conventional weapons talks that have just resumed in Vienna and they failed to achieve any breakthrough in some of the key directions of the talks for nuclear and space arms, nuclear tests or chemical weapons. Let's pin our hopes on Shevardnadze and Baker.

The Soviet initiatives the Americans have before them include an agreement to put paid to the production of weaponry, (?geared fission) matter, and an agreement to stop any nuclear explosions in our two countries. What requires further Soviet-American cooperation are the continuing conflicts in Afghanistan, the Middle East, southern Africa, southeast Asia and Central America. The Wyoming agenda also includes preparations for one more summit between Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush.

Petrovskiy Receives USIA Director

LD0409144189 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy met United States

Information Agency (USIA) Director Bruce Gelb, who is visiting Moscow to attend the design in USA exhibition.

They discussed current Soviet-American cultural, scientific and other exchanges and prospects for their development. Special attention was paid to informational exchanges.

The sides expressed interest in maintaining and developing the latest positive trends and deepening trust in Soviet-US relations.

Improved Soviet-U.S. Trade Forseen

LD0409090189 Moscow TASS in English 0754 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—By TASS analyst Dmitriy Yakubov: Recent years have seen a marked improvement in Soviet-American relations, however, serious obstacles remain.

U.S. discriminatory trade policy toward the Soviet Union is one of these hurdles. The USSR is the only country in the world for which the United States has imposed limits on state credits, to say nothing of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment adopted by the U.S. Congress as part of the Trade Reform Act, linking economic relations between the two superpowers with Soviet emigration policy.

Times have changed since the passing of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment fifteen years ago. The Soviet Union has committed itself to democratisation and is determined to continue in the same direction. Meanwhile, the discriminatory limitations are still a reality, although they have no sense and run contrary to U.S. business interests, according to Senator Max Baucus, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on International Trade.

Recent changes in Soviet policy have made the Jackson-Vanik Amendment obsolete, the Democrat from Montana State believes.

Improved Soviet-U.S. relations require that both nations take a new and realistic look at the benefit of imporving their trade relations, he says.

The senator's viewpoint is characteristic of a group of U.S. Congressmen who, in June, began lobbying for the lifting of trade restrictions in relations with the Soviet Union. The United States should react positively to the changes in Soviet immigration policy, the senators believe.

The U.S. FORTUNE business magazine was able to count only 40 American companies who have agreed to invest in the Soviet Union, in an article published a month ago analysing the prospects for Soviet-U.S. joint ventures.

The article quoted Jan Vanous, a head of the Planecon research firm as saying that U.S. businessmen are alarmed that their West European competitors will be the first to enter the Soviet market.

U.S. To Limit Soviet Immigration

LD0309133289 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] New York September 3 TASS—The George Bush Administration has drafted plans which envisage a sharp restriction on admission of Soviet emigrants for permanent residence in the United States.

THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper reported today with reference to secret documents of the U.S. Department of State that the matter concerns first of all, former Soviet citizens of Jewish nationality who try to come to America as refugees. Such possibility is to be denied in particular to Soviet Jews without close relatives or other connections in the USA.

A likely effect of the plan would be to channel many of them to Israel, the newspaper pointed out.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "the new plan was developed secretly by a group composed of officials from the U.S. State Department, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency."

"Most of the plan is subject to approval by President George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker as well as by Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh in his capacity as supervisor of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, and the FBI.

"It is not subject to approval by congress, although congress could pass legislation to block or revise it."

The authors of the plan took into account the possibility of resistance from the Capitol Hill where a Zionist lobby is strong.

"A State Department document says the Administration is vigorously opposing bills passed by both houses of congress that would make it easier for Soviet Jews and Evangelical Christians to come to this country as refugees," the article emphasised.

The newspaper recalls that "for years, the United States has insisted that Soviet Jews should have their complete freedom in choosing their destinations."

However, the newspaper said, "Administration officials say the United States can no longer accommodate all those who want to come here, for economic reasons as well as the increasing difficulty of proving that the Jews are political or religious refugees."

During the meeting, both sides agreed to engage in unprecedentedly vigorous cooperation, and increase the opportunities for technical talks. They said that they expect the use of new experience and methods, in conformity with the trends of the times. In particular, the establishment of joint ventures for the processing of timber, production of consumer goods, and processing of agricultural products in Siberia and in the Far East was discussed.

The Japanese business delegation indicated the Japanese business sector's desire to promote trade and exchanges with the Soviet Union, based on the principle of mutual benefit. It stated its views on the future expansion of relations. Both sides commended the achievements of the two national committees of the Soviet-Japanese joint economic committee, and pointed out that the present meeting has great significance in deepening bilateral relations in the future.

Japanese participants at the meeting with Premier Ryzhkov included Chief Delegate Kawai, Japanese Ambassador to the USSR Muto, and representatives of Japanese companies Kawase, Kimura, Matsuda, Matsuo, Yoshimura, Takino, and Watanabe. On the Soviet side, First Deputy Premier Maslyukov, who is also the chairman of the State Planning Committee, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Katushev, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Malkevich, and Ambassador to Japan Solovyev were present, in addition to Premier Ryzhkov.

Japanese Company Head on Trade

OW0309000489 Moscow in Japanese to Japan
1200 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Interview with Ryoichi Kawai, chairman of Komatsu Ltd, by (Yurin), Moscow Radio's Japanese Section Chief on 25 August in Moscow; recorded]

[Excerpt] The Japanese side held a reception at the International Trade Center on 25 August following the conclusion of the 12th joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese Economic Cooperation Committee held in Moscow. At the reception, Moscow Radio's Japanese Section Chief (Yurin) interviewed Ryoichi Kawai, the head of the Japanese delegation and also chairman of Komatsu Ltd. We will now broadcast the interview:

[Begin recording] [Yurin] You have made many distiguished contributions over many years in the service of promoting trade between Japan and the Soviet Union. I have learned that you just met with Premier Ryzhkov a few minutes ago. What is your impression of him?

[Kawai] When I met the premier approximately 3 years ago, he spoke about various things, including perestroyka. People were not familiar with the word perestroyka at that time. On 15 February 1987, the year after I had met Premier Ryzhkov, General Secretary Gorbachev invited [word indistinct] people from [words indistinct] to the Kremlin and held a meeting with them on the nuclear issue. I also was invited to the meeting. People started to talk about perestroyka after the meeting. Although I welcomed perestroyka and General Secretary Gorbachev's proposal for the total abolition of nuclear weapons, I must admit that I had some doubts at that time whether these could be realized. During my visit this time, however, I have noticed some progress with regard to the nuclear issue, which General Secretary Gorbachev talked about. During my meeting with Premier Ryzhkov, perestroyka was not mentioned. Nevertheless, I feel strongly that perestroyka has evoked a great response in the past 2 years. [Words indistinct] I also feel that the Soviet people are beginning to think seriously about how perestroyka can be reflected in all aspects. I had the opportunity to meet with the premier today. He explained the current situation regarding perestroyka and described it as very complicated. He also said that current period is most critical. The premier also stressed that perestroyka could no longer be rolled back. [passage omitted]

[Yurin] Would you please comment on the current status of Japanese-Soviet trade?

[Kawai] There are many problems in Japanese-Soviet trade. According to Japanese Customs statistics, however, the amount of trade last year was a slightly less than $6 billion. I believe this is the highest so far. Bilateral trade is growing. Figures for June and July are favorable. However, I do not believe that these figures represent the true level of trade that should exist between the two countries. Trade between Japan and the Soviet Union could increase more and more if Japan and the Soviet Union were to promote structural reform. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Commentary Views Recent Bush-Kaifu Talks

OW0509051189 Moscow in Japanese to Japan
1200 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] On 1 September, Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu and U.S. President Bush held talks. In this connection, Moscow Radio commentator Dmitriyev has the following comment:

At a glance, it seems that the latest talks were no different at all from other Japan-U.S. summit talks held in recent years. As heretofore, the two leaders called each other by given names, stressed the importance and firmness of their bilateral relations, and spoke of the need for a global partnership between Japan and the United States.

From reports, so to speak, for (?external audiences) on the first overseas trip by the freshly inaugurated Prime Minister Kaifu, it was impossible to expect the unexpected. Nevertheless, a very significant characteristic could be clearly observed from the talks, although it did not show outwardly. Namely, the talks were held under a new situation, in which the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], which once boasted unshakable power, lost

Officials Observe U.S. Communist Party Anniversary

LD0109105189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0936 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 1 Sep (TASS)—On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the U.S. Communist Party, flowers were laid today at the graves beside the Kremlin wall of John Reed and Charles Ruthenberg, who were among the founders of that party. The ceremony was attended, in particular, by senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, representatives of the Marxism-Leninism Institute of the CPSU Central Committee, and of the USSR-U.S. Society, and by L. Dlugin and P. Beryl, members of the National Bureau of the U.S. Communist Party's National Committee.

Northeast Asia

Ryzhkov Receives Japanese Cultural Delegation

PM0409105789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendly Conversation"]

[Text] N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin 1 September S. Matsumae, eminent Japanese scientist and public figure and president of the Japanese Association for Cultural Ties with Foreign Countries [JACT], and the persons accompanying him, who are in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR State Committee for Public Education.

During a conversation the visitors were briefed on the course of perestroyka in the Soviet Union, the changes taking place in our country which are organically linked with the new political thinking, and the positive developments in the international arena. For their part, the Japanese representatives expressed wishes for success in solving the tasks of perestroyka and for the fruitful development of important socioeconomic processes in the interests of the Soviet people. They also spoke of the great impression made on them by the implementation of organizational and structural changes in the Soviet Union, changes which promise to provide fresh incentives for the development of cooperation between the two countries.

The JACT president was given a written reply from M.S. Gorbachev which specifically expresses gratitude for S. Matsumae's constructive considerations on general questions of Japanese-Soviet and international cooperation.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers confirmed the Soviet Union's principled policy of the stable and onward development of relations with Japan on the principles of good-neighborliness, equality, and mutual advantage. It was noted in this regard that, in the context of the general improvement of the international situation, there has been a definite galvanization of Soviet-Japanese political dialogue and definite positive changes are occurring in practical spheres of bilateral relations.

At the same time, attention was drawn to the fact that the objective opportunities existing here are far from being fully utilized and that Japan, compared with other countries, seems to be standing aside from the incipient process of the Soviet Union's more active involvement in world economic relations.

The following took part in the conversation, which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere: From the Japanese side—JACT Vice Presidents G. Kogura, Y. Tokuma, S. Tsutsumi, and T. Matsumae, and JACT Senior Secretary K. Sugimori; from the Soviet side—Yu.M. Volmer, chairman of the "USSR-Japan" Society Central Board and USSR minister of the maritime fleet; and A.A. Logunov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and rector of the M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Soviet-Japanese Economic Committee Meets

Ryzhkov Meets Japanese Delegation

OW0509063389 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Leaders of the Japanese business delegation attending the 12th Joint Soviet-Japanese Economic Committee Meeting in Moscow met Premier Ryzhkov yesterday [25 Aug] afternoon.

During the meeting, participants in the joint committee meeting said that, since the last Soviet-Japan economic meeting, favorable changes have occurred in the international arena due to the implementation of new political thinking. Moreover, as to overall Soviet-Japanese relations under this favorable international situation, they pointed out that political dialogues have become active, actual exchanges have expanded, and overall bilateral relations have improved.

Premier Ryzhkov explained the USSR's basic policy to Japan. He said that the basic policy is that the economic power of the two countries has great influence on the political and economic affairs of the modern world. He asserted that this is linked to the promotion of active, goodneighborly exchanges.

Furthermore, Premier Ryzhkov said that the Soviet Union is willing to further develop ties with Japan in various areas, based on the principles of friendship and mutual benefit. Constructive cooperation between the USSR and Japan will not only strengthen friendly ties between the two peoples, but will also ensure peace and stability in the Asia and Pacific region and the world as a whole.

The Japanese delegation was briefed on the USSR's perestroyka, which is showing progress, despite the great difficulties it encounters, and reforms in economic relations with foreign countries, which will open up possibilities for Soviet-Japanese working level cooperation in the Soviet Far East and other areas in particular.

Union also has taken a series of realistic actions to reduce the level of its naval activities in the Pacific, a fact attested to by the Australian prime minister, statements by Asian nations, and many mass media.

A certain group of people in Japan may not be too interested in the rapid changes that are taking place in the world as a result of the new political thinking that is taking shape and that is becoming part of international life. It is difficult under such conditions for Japan to push for an increase in the military budget. This has made it necessary for that country to find an excuse and possibly explains why that ludicrous story has resurfaced.

Japan's Defense Policy Viewed

OW0409133489 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] Moscow Radio commentator Dmitriyev writes as follows: Although less than a month has passed since the Kaifu cabinet was inaugurated, the cabinet has already made some definite decisions in line with the Defense Agency policy. The Defense Agency plans to build up the military strength at a faster pace than in the past. For example, the agency aims to increase next year's defense budget by 6.35 percent. If the defense budget is approved as requested, Japan's defense budget will exceed 4 trillion.

Using this budget, the agency will put priority on the purchase of weapons and the development of new weapons. In addition, Japan's burden for maintaining the U.S. military bases will be further increased. This issue is likely to be taken up at a meeting between Prime Minister Kaifu and U.S. President Bush.

The agency plans to maintain a higher growth rate for its defense budget than that of North Atlantic Treaty Organization nations. As seen from remarks made by Defense Agency Director General Matsumoto, there is no change in this plan.

In an interview with YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Director General Matsumoto spoke as if the threat from the Soviet side is growing qualitatively and quantitively. Why did he make this remark? An official concerned with Japan's military said the so-called Soviet threat grows at a time when the Soviet Union beefs up its defense capability in the Far East. However, Director General Matsumoto claims that the Soviet threat continues to grow as it did in the past, even though the Soviet Union is unilaterally reducing its ground, naval, and air forces. What the agency is claiming means that the Soviet threat is growing regardless of actions the Soviet Union is taking. In the Far East alone, Soviet forces will be reduced by 120,000 troops and 16 combat ships. In the past few years, 56 ships assigned to the Soviet Pacific Fleet were decommissioned. What draws attention is that the agency is claiming that the Soviet threat to Japan is growing despite the fact that Japan has been rapidly building up its military strength every year. This makes us think that the more Japan builds up its military strength, the more the Soviet threat to Japan grows.

Recently, the agency has increasingly taken on the character of a subordinate system which functions not based on objective reality, but based on some form of internal restrictions. The agency policy has not changed in the least, regardless of changes taking place in neighboring nations. When we fail to grasp reality, we can not have discretional thinking. In a January editorial, ASAHI SHIMBUN wrote that Japan has reached the level of a military giant in terms of defense budget, indicating the trend of international detente, and questioned from what and in what way Japan would defend itself.

In view of the agency's policy, the agency seems to have opted for its own way without paying heed to this question. In principle, it is possible to explain this action. The world's political scientists have been paying attention to the characteristics of Japan's state rule in which bureaucrats play large roles. For example, the U.S. magazine FORTUNE, in its 28 August edition, wrote that those who rule Japan are not politicians, but bureaucrats. Changes are taking place in the modern world, and security can be guaranteed by political means rather than military means. If these facts are recognized, the Defense Agency will see the need to review its policy. It is not thought that the agency will do this voluntarily, as politicians are bent on power struggles instead of implementing policies. Consequently, the agency policy aimed at constantly building military strength is damaging the effects of the civilian control system.

Commentators throughout the world have said that Japan could be a military superpower. This is not a strange idea. FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, a Hong Kong magazine, reports that Asia and Pacific nations are uneasy about Japan's growing expansion of military strength. Japan plans to introduce aircraft carriers and refueling aircraft in its next defense buildup plan in order to expand the action radius of the Air Self-Defense Force. The present trend of ignoring restrictions on building up military strength will continue. Japan's plans to pursue an offensive military doctrine have become real.

Japanese Labor Leader Praises Perestroyka

OW3108101089 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Vice Chairman Yasumasa Saito of Japan's Sohyo [General Council of Trade Unions of Japan] gave a speech at a Soviet-Japanese labor union symposium being held in Tokyo. He highly appraised the social and economic reforms being undertaken in the Soviet Union and its active diplomatic efforts to promote the relaxation of international tension and disarmament. He also indicated that perestroyka in international relations creates favorable conditions for establishing good neighborly relations between Japan and the Soviet Union and a large number of seats in the House of Councillors elections last July, and thus its authority was shaken.

Under these circumstances, therefore, it was politically indispensable for both the United States and Japan to actually emphasize the hitherto traditional [words indistinct] spirit and foreign policy. Herein lies the reason why Prime Minister Kaifu rushed to the United States less than a month after his inauguration.

Regarding Japan's (?revisions to) the Security Treaty, such (?things) were particularly strongly confirmed at the first meeting between Prime Minister Kaifu and President Bush. Calling the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty the basic cornerstone for Japan-U.S. relations, Prime Minister Kaifu stated that Japan's alliance with the United States is of importance, not only to the security of Japan, but also to that of the Asian-Pacific region.

In his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Baker, Foreign Minister Nakayama, who accompanied Prime Minister Kaifu, indicated his readiness to discuss the question of increasing Japan's expenditure for U.S. military bases.

Japan now appears to be trying, not only to maintain relations with the United States in the military field at the conventional level, but also to raise it to a new level.

It was recently disclosed that Japan had consented to participate in Pacex 89, a military exercise to be carried out before long with the participation of many nations. The United States conducts this exercise in the Pacific. In scale, Pacex 89 will be unparalleled in history. Now, the question arises: For whose security is this exercise necessary at a time when the Soviet Union is carrying out large-scale arms reductions unilaterally?

At their talks, Prime Minister Kaifu and President Bush took up economic relations on a grand scale. At the first meeting between the two leaders, which was largely ceremonial in nature, this economic friction was not concealable. President Bush pointed out that the trade imbalance, which amounted to $47.6 billion last year, is feared to impair Japan-U.S. relations drastically. Prime Minister Kaifu, on the other hand, criticized the United States for its protectionist tendencies.

After all, the two leaders agreed that both sides need to make efforts to settle the economic friction issue. However, regarding this, a certain senior Ministry of Trade and Industry official said in Tokyo that settlement of this issue will not be an easy job.

All this shows that relations with the United States will likely become a new, hard trial for Prime Minister Kaifu and his cabinet.

Chernyshev Article on Japan's Defense Discussed

OW0209005589 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] The 25th August issue of the daily SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries an article by TASS military commentator Chernyshev relating to a defense White Paper to be announced by Japan's Defense Agency soon.

According to the gist of the White Paper, as reported by Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN, the authors of the paper positively evaluate the Soviet troop reduction in Europe. On the other hand, however, they insist that they do not see any change with regard to Soviet military threats in the Far East. They assert that there are no assurances whether or when any reductions actually will be carried out in the Soviet Union or in Asia.

We cannot but be appalled by such assertions. We will refute their hackneyed remarks on the Soviet military threats. The Soviet Union already has made public details of the composition of its military power in the Far East. If a comparison were made of the military power in this area between the Soviet Union and the United States along with Japan, it would become clear that the Soviet Union has an advantage over these countries only in such defensive ground weapons as tanks, armored personnel carriers, and artillery guns.

The combined military power of the United States and Japan in the Far East is superior to that of the Soviet Union [words indistinct] in terms of the number of military personnel, air force strategic attack squadrons, and naval aircraft. In terms of the number of large naval vessels, their total is approximately four times that of the Soviet Union. In addition, the United States is capable of reinforcing its power in the Far East by dispatching additional troops or materiel to Hawaii from its mainland.

All of these clearly prove that Japan's hackneyed phraseology—military threats—is only an excuse to distort the facts, a policy that was started during the Cold War era for the purpose of [words indistinct].

I now would like to comment on their assertion that there are no indications on when and how the Soviet Union will reduce its strength in the Far East.

It appears as if Japan's Defense Agency does not exist in this world and that the agency's responsible people neither read newspapers nor listen to the radio. Otherwise how can you explain the Defense Agency's apparent lack of awareness of the [words indistinct] changes, such as those taking place with regard to the Soviet Armed Forces stationed in the Soviet eastern area.

Moreover, it has been announed officially that the total strength of Soviet troops in the Far East will be reduced by 12,000 from 1989 to 1990. This is to be followed by the reduction of 12 nonregular divisions, the deactivation of 11 air groups, and the removal of 16 vessels from the Pacific Fleet.

It can be said that what will be left is really for defense. I also should note that the Soviet Union has proposed to the Asian and Pacific nations that they take joint actions to promote trust and to alleviate tensions. The Soviet the maintenance of peace and relaxation of tension in the Asia and Pacific Region.

The Soviet-Japanese labor union symposium, with "Toward Peace and Friendship in the Soviet and Japanese Workers' Society" as its theme, was organized by the Soviet All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions and Sohyo. The symposium was held to coincide with the 17th Soviet-Japanese Labor Union Conference, which will start in Osaka on 1 September. Soviet people's deputies, Japanese Diet members, economists, international affairs specialists, and labor union activists from both countries participated in the symposium and discussed the course for developing bilateral relations, the expansion of economic relations, the strengthening of cooperation between labor unions of both countries and the role of labor unions in maintaining peace and security in the Asia and Pacific Region.

Japanese Committee on 1983 Korean Plane Downing

LD0409101689 Mosocw TASS in English 1002 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Tokyo September 4 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vladimir Solntsev:

The U.S. President George Bush should admit that the former American administration had exploited for political purposes the incident with the South-Korean airliner which intruded into the air space of the Soviet Union and was shot down by Soviet fighters in the Far East on September 1, 1983. This is pointed out in the statement issued by the Japanese committee for the investigation of the incident, which includes a group of MPs, relatives of passengers who were on board the South-Korean Boeing-747, representatives of public circles.

"The Reagan administration", the document says, "had used numerous human lives as a political instrument". It is common knowledge that the downing of the liner and the death of 269 passengers gave Washington a pretext for fanning up a large-scale anti-Soviet campaign.

The authors of the statement recall that on August 2nd of this year the Washington federal district court jury ruled the "Korean Airlines" company of South-Korea guilty of "deliberate illegal behaviour" which led to the Boeing's intrusion into Soviet airspace to a depth of 500 kilometres. It also ruled that the company should pay a 50-million-dollar compensation to the families of the accident victims. "The court's admission that the U.S. Government was duly informed of the developments, the document also says, testifies to strong mistrust of the American administration by the alarmed world public".

The committee demanded that all circumstances of the incident should be made public. It also demanded that the Japanese Government should submit to parliament video-records of the incident which, according to information on hand, were made on Hokkaido by a Japanese air-force unit. It is known that at least three radar stations of the Japanese Armed forces secretly followed on September 1st, 1983, the Boeing's manoeuvres in Soviet air space. However, the Japanese Government refused to release this information under the pretext of "maintaining a state secret".

Southeast Asia & Pacific

U.S. Nuclear Weapons in Philippines Discussed

LD0309083789 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Manila September 3 TASS—Documents which have been submitted for consideration to the Senate National Defence and Security Commission of the Philippine Congress are evidence that there are nuclear weapons at U.S. military bases located on Philippine territory.

According to materials collected by Senator Wigberto Tanada, the United States had 3,200 units of tactical nuclear weapons in the Asia-Pacific region as far back as 1975. There are now about 10,000 units of nuclear weapons in the region.

Addressing senators on Saturday, Philippine Brigadier General, Demetrio Camua, deputy commander the Clark field air base, said that during an inspection of the base he did not find any nuclear weapons there.

At the same time he admitted that he insepected only part of the base. At Clark field, he pointed out, there are places which are off limits to Filipinos.

Neither did the general rule out the possibility that aircraft stationed at the base may be armed with nuclear weapons.

Camu said that the inspection revealed an increased radiation level in the Clark field territory. However, he said, according to the assurances of American military specialists radiation comes from X-ray outfits installed in the medical unit of the military base.

It is known that the United States pursues a policy according to which it neither confirms nor denies the presence of mass destruction weapons at its military facilites.

Lao Leader Ends Vacation, Leaves for Home

LD0109154289 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—Laotian Leader Kaysone Phomvihan, taking a vacation in the Soviet Union on the invitation of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, left Moscow for home today.

Rogachev Sees Off Cambodia's Hun Sen

LD0509101689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0640 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 5 Sep (TASS)—Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the state of Cambodia, made a stopover here on 2-4 September on his return journey from Paris, where he had attended the final stage of the international conference on Cambodia. At the airport, Hun Sen was met and seen off by Igor Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister.

Commentary on Paris Conference on Cambodia

Khmer Rouge Termed 'Real Enemy of Peace'

BK0309075589 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Paris international conference on Cambodia has already ended. It was worth noting that hopes for peace and stability in Southeast Asia were about to bear fruit.

However, in the western region of Cambodia, waves of fighting launched by the Khmer Rouge broke out. It is very well known that recently the Khmer Rouge leaders clamorously claimed that the only obstacle to the process of restoring peace in Cambodia was the presence of the Vietnamese forces in the country. Now, the SRV volunteer troops, in agreement with the Government of the State of Cambodia, will leave the country that they rescued from the danger of genocide committed by the Pol Pot regime, while the Khmer Rouge themselves are striving to kindle the war along the border aimed at upsetting the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer forces. As such, is this proper? Why should it be so?

In fact, the Polpotist leaders have nurtured a well-defined purpose of searching for necessary pretexts to hinder the Cambodian settlement which had begun to take shape. Were the settlement to be concluded, the so-called fathers of the genocide in Cambodia would be officially designated as political corpses or corpses in diplomatic arenas.

The Polpotists are also poised to wage a civil war in order to delay the capital punishment to be imposed on them by history, said the chairman of the State of Cambodia's State Council, Comrade Heng Samrin. If the Paris international conference achieved no results, the Polpotist clique would have no intention to halt fighting against the legal government. The Khmer Rouge clearly realized that there would be no hope for them if they laid down their arms and agreed to participate in elections. That being the case, they clearly understood that the only way out for them was to continue fighting, Comrade Heng Samrin pointed out.

The majority of the delegates at the Paris international conference, under different aspects, called for an international guarantee to prevent the Polpotist clique from kindling a civil war and returning to power in Cambodia.

Despite the Paris conference not achieving its major hope of providing a peace settlement to the Cambodian problem, it was, anyway, not useless. At least, the conference has shown who is the real enemy to peace in the long-suffering Cambodian motherland.

Hope for Cambodian Settlement Noted

BK0509072989 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Station observer Viktor Valentinov commentary: "The Conference has been Postponed, but its Work is Continuing"]

[Text] The Paris conference on Cambodia, which lasted for a month, was not a waste of time, and no one can say it was a failure. Some discontent was obvious because no joint agreement was drafted or issued, but none of the delegates from the 19 countries or any leader of the Cambodian political forces at the conference objected to what was achieved. A general assessment was made in the official statement issued late last month in Paris. The statement noted: The participants strived to meticulously study the key issues in order to arrive at a settlement of the conflict in Cambodia. The formula was broad.

I wish to try to interpret what I have heard:

1. Progress was made and all were unanimous about this. Signs of a future agreement sought by the participants can already be seen.

2. Where was the progress made? It is easy to answer: The thorough study of all the aspects of the Cambodian problem and the understanding of the positions of all the parties concerned. Without such study a settlement will never be achieved. Was 1 month enough to find a solution to the nearly 20-year conflict?

Many observers were bored with the wording used by the Cambodian parties in the discussion, and this certainly led to a pessimistic conclusion.

In my view, there is nothing more than this: The Cambodian contending parties had no confidence in one another, and this was obvious in the discussions held in Paris. There was no other reason. Realizing the circumstances, the Cambodian parties unanimously decided to continue their exchange of views. This move was endorsed by the other participants and was also inserted in the official statement.

The co-chairmen of the conference, France and Indonesia, agreed to intervene in order to reconcile the parties involved with the aim of facilitating the search for a settlement. The exchange of views will be held in the future as it will help the Paris conference to continue its work. Therefore, contrary to the claims hurriedly made by some people, the conference has not been terminated; it was only adjourned and will continue its work later on. The world community, especially the Cambodian people, are earnestly watching this matter.

Outcome of Conference Discussed

BK0309104589 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1230 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Station observer Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The propaganda machines in various countries have actively continued commenting on the outcome of the international conference which ended on 30 August. They noted that the outcome was not as great as they expected. It is regrettable that the participants did not reach an agreement which could speed up the settlement of the Cambodian problem. However, in the opinion of our observer, Alekseyev, the Paris conference has brought quite a lot of good points. That is, it has become an evidence which clearly manifests the stance of the parties involved in the Cambodian conflict as well as the various obstacles, both the apparent and hidden ones, on the path toward reaching the solution.

Our observer, Alekseyev, went on: It is not wrong for me to say that the biggest obstacle is the destructive stance of the Pol Pot group or the Khmer Rouge. It was manifested clearly at the conference that the Pol Pot group does not abandon its desire to settle the Cambodian problem through military means. In other words, it wants to seize control of the power in Cambodia. With the Pol Pot clique having tens of thousands of armed men, it is certainly a real threat to the future of Cambodia. Moreover, as seen at the Paris conference, the leaders of the group did not in the least regret their crimes committed in Cambodia between 1975 and 1979.

I must recall that the genocidal policy implemented at that time by the Pol Pot clique caused millions of Cambodian people to die.

Can they forge a political alliance with these criminals? Can these elements be allowed to have a role in the solution to the problem in Cambodia, a country which might once again be plunged into the abyss of bloody terrorism?

As the people in Southeast Asian countries have said, allowing this to happen is tantamount to releasing a poisonous snake into a house where children are at play.

The comrade chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, Hun Sen, has clearly stressed that his government cannot forge any relation with the Pol Pot clique so long as it does not lay down its arms and stop receiving foreign military aid. Comrade Hun Sen also said that the Khmer Rouge ringleaders must be vehemently and clearly condemned for their genocidal crimes. But, it was shown at the Paris conference that the Pol Pot clique has a different view regarding this matter. Serving as proof of this is the recent report from the Thai-Cambodian border. As soon as the Paris conference ended, Pol Pot's armed forces launched a fierce offensive against the armed forces of the Cambodian Government.

Reasons for Failure Analyzed

LD0109201589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 1 Sep 89

["International Situation—Questions and Answers" program, presented by commentator Aleksandr Malikov, with commentator Boris Andrianov; "colleague" Yuriy Isayev; and "colleague" Viktor Levin]

[Excerpts] [Malikov] The rapt attention of our listeners is focused on efforts to settle the Cambodian problem. Here, for instance, is what Sergey Matveyevich Kazakov from Sverdlovsk writes. At the present time, he notes, an international conference on Cambodia is at work in Paris. Are there grounds to think that it will help to eliminate one of the most acute regional problems?

I have asked my colleague, All-Union Radio Commentator Boris Andrianov, to answer this question. I shall make way for him at the microphone.

[Andrianov] While your letter, Sergey Matveyevich, was on the way to us, the international conference on Cambodia closed. Moreover it completed its work ahead of schedule. However, the hopes that were pinned to the conference have not been realized.

Journalists were informed by a spokesman for the French co-chairman of the conference that the forum had not managed to achieve a final agreement and it may resume its work in Paris next spring. At the present stage, he pointed out, the time for compromise had not arrived. One may, of course, express a sense of regret over this, but I think it is far more important to analyze why the Paris forum has to all intents and purposes been fruitless, if one is to speak frankly.

The international conference on Cambodia was divided into two stages—an initial stage and the final stage. Between these two stages specially created commissions were at work for almost a month. They studied various aspects of the Cambodian problem. Indeed it was these commissions that were unable on a basis of unanimity to work out a final conference document on a comprehensive settlement of the conflict; it was planned that the heads of the diplomatic departments of those countries taking part in the forum were to sign this at its final stage.

If one turns to what has been said by foreign observers and press publications in the capitalist countries, it is quite evident how united they are in appraising the reasons for the failure of the preparatory work in the commissions. In their view, from the very outset the conference ran into resistance on the part of the Pol Pot group—the so-called Khmer Rouge. [passage omitted]

In striving to attain their quarter of power, the Pol Pot representatives in Paris were clearly trying to drive the conference into an impasse, in order, as one of them said, to later clarify relations on the battlefield. These tactics are fully explicable. After all, the Khmer Rouge realize what a black remembrance they have left in a country where they are hated by practically all Cambodians. Therefore it must be assumed that the Pol Pot people realize that they have no real chance of acquiring a marked position in the political life of the future Cambodia as a result of nationwide voting at elections. This is why they are banking on the strength of their weaponry, which they plan to employ in order to get their own way, and seize power by military means. In this connection it should be noted that the Pol Pot army is the largest armed formation in the camp of the Cambodian opposition. According to Western sources it already numbers up to 40,000 men, and in addition possesses a solid source of reserves for further mobilization from among the refugees in camps that are fully under the control of the Khmer Rouge in Thailand's territory.

In short, the problem of the Pol Pot group has now become perhaps the main stumbling block in the way of a peaceful settlement in Cambodia. This problem is assuming an ever more pressing and acute character in view of the fact that less than 4 weeks remain before the final withdrawal of Vietnamese forces. [passage omitted]

Vietnamese Revolution Anniversary Noted

SRV Party Chief's Speech

LD0109202689 Moscow TASS in English 1838 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Hanoi September 1 TASS—The victory of the August revolution and the proclamation of Vietnam's independence on Septenmber 2, 1945 were the remarkable results of the Vietnamese people's struggle under the guidance of the Communist Party founded by Ho Chi Minh, the sole guiding force of the Vietnamese revolution. Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist party of Vietnam, said this, addressing the celebration meeting here devoted to Vietnam's national day.

It is a great honour for Vietnam to be part of the world socialist system. It is due to the efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries that peoples of the world have been free from the horrors of world war and living in peace for over 40 years now, the Vietnamese leader said. He condemned the attempts to negate socialism's historic achievements and emphasised that perestroika, renewal and reforms in fraternal countries give a fresh impetus to the advance along the road of socialist construction and enable the creative potential of society to be expanded fuller.

The Vietnamese people is determined to do all it can for the consolidation of fraternal solidarity and all-round cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries. Vietnam is striving for the preservation and further development of versatile cooperation with Laos and Cambodia, for the widening of mutually-advantageous contacts with countries of the region and the whole world on the basis of equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. The socialist republic of Vietnam declares for the normalisation of relations with China, for the solution of problems between the two countries through talks, the speaker said.

The implementation of the course at renewal proclaimed by the sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam brought the first promising changes to the country's economy. The functioning of state enterprises is being upgraded. Production activity is closer related to consumers' demands. New equipment is installed on a larger scale.

At the same time, considerable difficulties still exist in the national economy which was the reason why the idea of denationalizing many state-owned enterprises was advanced. It would be a mistake to promote such a tendency leading to the deviation from the socialist path of development and to the weakening of the state sector, the linchpin of the country's economy, Nguyen Van Linh said.

The volume of farm produce, above all of foodstuffs, on the Vietnamese market increased considerably last year. Solid foodstocks have been created for the first time over many years. This made it possible to clear some debts and export part of food to receive currency to buy machinery and materials for agriculture. The stabilisation of prices in the domestic market has a positive effect on the population's living standards.

Advancing along the road of socialist construction, Vietnam will not allow the creation of opposition parties and organisations that would struggle against people's power, against socialism. There can be either genuine or spurious democracy, and this does not depend on whether there exists one party or several parties. This is why we decisively reject pluralism, a multi-party system, the existence of opposition, Nguyen Van Linh emphasised. Calls for their introduction are none other than an attempt of imperialist forces to compel socialism to veer off the correct road, to weaken party guidance and people's unity, he stated.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam expressed the confidence that the Vietnamese people will withstand all trials, overcome difficulties and score fresh success in socialist construction.

Anniversary Marked in Moscow

PM0409155389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Public Meeting"]

[Text] A festive meeting of representatives of Moscow's working people devoted to the 44th anniversary of the August Revolution's victory and the creation of an independent democratic state in Vietnam's ancient land marked the beginning of a 10-day festival of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship in the USSR.

The course of renewal in various spheres of social life adopted at the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam Congress, participants noted in their speeches, gave a fresh impetus to the work of socialist building in Vietnam. This course is in profound harmony with the line of perestroyka being implemented in the Soviet Union and the radical reforms in other socialist countries.

SRV Ambassador to the USSR Nguyen Manh Cam emphasized that, while implementing renewal in their own country, the Vietnamese people show special interest in the revolutionary perestroyka being implemented in the USSR. We are sincerely pleased with the Soviet people's achievements, he said, and believe that they will successfully fulfill the decisions of the historic 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference.

The meeting was attended by R.N. Nishanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations; and a delegation from the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society.

Dementey Delegation Begins Australasian Tour

Delegation Departs Moscow

LD0109152389 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Minsk September 1 TASS—By TASS Correspondent Vladimir Glod:

A Supreme Soviet delegation left Moscow on Thursday to pay official visits to Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

It is being led by Soviet Vice-President Nikolay Dementey.

The visit is his first in this capacity after he was elected president of the Presidium of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet on July 28.

Dementey did not even dream of statesmanship in his younger years. His father and grandfather had been farmers and he planned to follow in their footsteps. This is why he enrolled in an agricultural college and then worked first as an agronomist and then the director of a tractor depot, while studying by correspondence at the Belorussian Agricultural Academy.

But the up-and-coming, energetic manager was soon invited to work at party bodies. He started as an instructor on the staff of a district party committee and eventually became a secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. His dedicated work earned him many state distinctions.

This year Dementey was elected to the Congress of People's Deputies. He had earlier been elected to the Belorussian Supreme Soviet. He is brimming with energy and keen to use his rich experience, knowledge and competence to advance perestroika and social and economic progress in Belorussia.

Dementey, a 58-year-old Belorussian, is married. His wife Olga recently retired on a pension after teaching biology at a school for many years. Their son Valeriy is an engineer at a Minsk factory.

Dementey Comments on Upcoming Visit

LD0309145189 Moscow TASS in English 1238 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Sidney September 3 TASS—An official visit to Australia of a Supreme Soviet delegation headed by the Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and President of the Belorussian Parliament Nikolay Dementey began today.

The delegation head made a statement at the airport in which he said, among other things, that "the USSR Supreme Soviet accepted the invitation of the federal parliament to send a group of Soviet people's deputies on an official visit to Australia with profound satisfaction and gratitude.

"Parliamentary contacts and links have become an important integral part of the entire complex of bilateral Soviet-Australian relations.

"The inter-parliamentary dialogue, as much as other forms of mutual communication of states, enables exchanges of opinions concerning the most urgent present issues and leads to strengthened mutual understanding and greater confidence.

"A common ground for future constructive interaction in international and regional affairs, as well as in the field of bilateral cooperation, can only be found through comparing the positions and approaches of the two parties", Dementey said.

The Supreme Soviet delegation will also visit New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Delegation Visits Australia

LD0409170689 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Melbourne September 4 TASS—By TASS Correspondent Aleksey Voronin:

A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet continues a visit in Australia. The delegation is headed by Nikolay Dementey, vice-president of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

This morning the delegates to the Supreme Soviet met with heads of a large industrial corporation "Austec" in

Sydney. Prospects for the development of mutually-advantageous commercial and economic cooperation, including the possibility of creating joint ventures, were discussed.

Wallace Murray, member of Parliament of New South Wales, deputy premier of the state, minister of planning and works, summed up the activity of the government of the biggest Australian state, New South Wales. Establishment of business ties between Soviet republics and Australian states was also discussed.

The elections of USSR people's deputies based on democratic principles have been held just recently. The elections to republican and local government bodies, to be held also on a new basis, are drawing nearer. So familiarisation with the ways elections are held in other countries now has special importance. The delegation visited the local branch of the Australian electoral Commission. Heads of the branch described to the deputies the mechanism of candidates' nomination and methods of counting votes.

In the evening the delegation arrived in Melbourne, the capital of Victoria, Australia's second biggest state. There will be meetings and conversations with Australian businessmen.

Near East & South Asia

Vlasov Makes Statement on Departure From Libya

*LD0309074989 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0647 GMT 3 Sep 89*

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Sep (TASS) The Soviet delegation headed by Aleksandr Vlasov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, which has taken part in the celebrations on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution, has left for Moscow. At the Tripoli International Airport, the delegation was seen off by Mubarak al-Shamikh, general people's committee secretary for communications and maritime transport.

Before his departure, the head of the Soviet delegation made the following statement:

There is only a short time left before we leave our hospitable Libyan friends. In the course of the short stay in the Jamahiriyah, we have witnessed the enthusiasm with which its freedom-loving people celebrated its national holiday—the 20th anniversary of the September revolution. The participation in celebrations by numerous foreign delegation from the whole world demonstrates Libya's authority and the important role it plays in international affairs particularly Arab and African affairs. We have had very fruitful meetings with its leadership. A constructive exchange of views on many questions has taken place during which the identical or close position of our countries emerged, which has shown the mutual interest in the development of cooperation. I express confidence that this dialogue, useful for both sides, will assist in further strengthening our relations. The delegation's stay in Tripoli has made it possible for us to get better acquainted with the Libyan people and their achievements in the cause of building a new society. I would like to thank our Libyan friends for the cordiality and hospitality and wish them great new achievements on their chosen path.

Libyan Envoy Speaks on Revolution in TV Address

*LD0109200889 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1430 GMT 1 Sep 89*

[Address by Zuwali Suwaydan, secretary of the people's bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the USSR; in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation—recorded; from the "Vremya" newscast]

Esteemed friends! This date is of particular importance in the life of the Libyan people. On this day in 1969 Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and his comrades-in-arms from among the ranks of free officers led and accomplished a popular revolution which overthrew the monarchist regime, liberating the Libyan people from the yoke of imperialism and exploitation, and put them onto the road of progress and independence.

The Great September Revolution was a turning-point in the destiny, not only of the Libyan people, but also of the Arab region and the whole world. In the 20 years of the revolution major successes have been attained in various spheres of political and socio-economic life; the country's political independence has been won; wealth, power, and arms have passed into the hands of the people.

Revolutionary Libya is playing a vanguard role in the international arena, having chosen the road of solidarity with peace-loving forces in the struggle to affirm the principles of peace, security, disarmament, justice, and equal rights in international relations.

Dear friends! I can state that Libyan-Soviet relations have been strengthened and have acquired a special character in all spheres in the past 20 years since the day of the revolution. They are based on mutual respect and fruitful cooperation and are developing steadily in the interests of our friendly peoples. The ties of these relations have grown even stronger thanks to the constant meetings and constructive dialogues between leaders of the two countries.

In conclusion, I want to stress once more that the Libyan people rate highly their relations of friendship with the Soviet people, value them, and are striving to deepen and expand them, in the name of our common interests in all spheres. Thank you for your attention.

Najibullah Sends Telegram to Gorbachev

LD0309134189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1312 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (TASS)—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, who is travelling to Belgrade as head of that country's delegation to take part in the work of the 9th Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Nonaligned Countries, while flying over the territory of the USSR sent a telegram to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central, Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The telegram says: "Flying over the territory of your wonderful country en route for Belgrade, I send you my best wishes. I wish to express to you and your government and the whole Soviet people my satisfaction with Afghan-Soviet relations of friendship and cooperation in the interests of the peoples of the two countries. I hope for the constant expansion and strengthening of our relations. I wish you robust health and great successes for your people and the government of the Soviet Union in the cause of restructuring, and the strengthening of peace, security and cooperation."

Najibullah Stops in Tashkent En Route to SFRY

LD0309140489 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul 12 Sep (BAKHTAR)—Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan en route to Belgrade to participate in the ninth conference of the heads of state and governments of the nonaligned countries, arrived in Tashkent last night.

A BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent reports from Tashkent, capital of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, that Esteemed Najibullah and his accompanying delegation were welcomed at Tashkent International Airport by Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; Mirzaolim Ibragimov, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic; Anatoliy Stepanovich Yefimov, second secretary of Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic; Communist Party Central Committee; a number of the state and party officials of Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic; Sayed Mohammad Gholabzoy, ambassador and representative plenipotentiary of the Republic of Afghanistan to the USSR; Gholam Hazrat Hamgar, general consul of the Republic of Afghanistan to Tashkent; and a number of staff of the embassy and consulate of Afghanistan in Moscow and Tashkent.

According to another report Esteemed Najibullah and his accompanying delegation left Tashkent for Belgrade at 1100 local time today. The aforementioned officials saw off Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan at the international Airport.

Iranian Relations With Nonaligned Movement Noted

NC0309123089 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Yuriy Andreyev commentary]

[Text] The Nonaligned Movement summit is to open in Belgrade on 4 September. Our commentator Yuriy Andreyev states his views on Iran's role in this movement's activities.

Our commentator writes: We know that exactly 10 years ago, in September 1979, Iran became a member of the Nonaligned Movement. At that time, this largest international forum expressed its solidarity with the Iranian people's struggles against imperialism. Tehran, in turn, attached great significance to the role of the Nonaligned Movement on the international scene and stated its readiness to cooperate with this movement in various fields.

But the situation then changed. Tehran did not favor the Nonaligned Movement's impartiality in the Iran-Iraq war. The Iranian press published criticism of the organization, and some officials accused it of cooperation with the superpowers. Saying that some Nonaligned Movement members supported Baghdad during the 8-year Iran-Iraq war has complicated things further.

Clearly, such a policy has only led to increased discord between Iran and the Nonaligned Movement. Moreover, the governments of many member states adopted a very cautious stand on the Islamic radicalism which formed the nucleus of Tehran's foreign policy.

All these elements actually led to Iran's complete isolation in the international scene during the mid-eighties, and to its almost completely ceasing its activities within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement.

However, recently noteworthy changes have taken place in the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Many observers point out that Iran's foreign policy has become more balanced on the whole, and the Iranian leadership's new (?stand) has led to a complete normalization of Iran's relations with the Nonaligned Movement. Moreover, Tehran is doing its best to strengthen its standing in this organization, such as by recently having Iranian Foreign Ministry officials visit some countries with important rank in the Nonaligned Movement. For example, Foreign Minister Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati recently stated that the Movement should take part in more serious activities on the international scene. He said: We believe that the Nonaligned Movement members should carry out relative talks on the eve of the Belgrade conference. Dr Velayati himself met with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi a few days later. During his talks with Gandhi, he discussed various issues, namely the organization's future activities.

Meanwhile, reports coming in state that Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, who heads the special work group preparing for the Belgrade summit, has started intensive activities in Yugoslavia in order to increase Tehran's role in the policy of the Nonaligned Movement.

We wish to recall that this organization currently includes 102 members. Naturally, Iran is trying to strengthen its relations with this large international organization.

Our commentator then writes: This is the so-called practical aspect of this issue. However, this does not explain the reasons behind the change in Tehran's policy on the Nonaligned Movement. Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani recently said: Various times create various conditions which can motivate action.

Let us study what the motive was in this case. It seems that Tehran's economic interests were of great significance. On the one hand Iran, like the other members of the Nonaligned Movement, is interested in establishing a new economic system, and it is trying to end the western monopolies' (?domination) of the world economy. On the other hand, the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has practically frozen its relations with large western countries, is trying to find new (?partners) on the international scene. Under such conditions, Tehran's close cooperation with the Nonaligned Movement can help significantly in Iran's post-war economic reconstruction and revival.

Moreover, the domestic political situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran has seriously changed. The new leadership is displaying a well-measured and constructive approach on many international issues. The consolidation of Soviet-Iranian cooperation, the (?improvement) of Iranian-Indian relations, and Iran's flexible stand on the Afghanistan problem are manifestations of this. It is not accidental that President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani recently pointed out that Iran is prepared to have friendly relations with all countries, with the exception of some countries that have not given up their plundering objectives.

Many interpreted these remarks as an invitation for an extensive and explicit dialogue during the Nonaligned Summit in Yugoslavia. Of course, some observers (?believe) that Tehran is trying to make the Nonaligned Movement a mediator in solving the Iran-Iraq conflict and to use the great international credibility which this organization enjoys in solving such a long conflict.

Only the future will show how correct all these predictions will be. However, now it is also clear and obvious that the creation of a new atmosphere in the relations between Iran and the Nonaligned Movement will consolidate international cooperation and security.

Iran To Obtain Soviet Technology, Aircraft

JN0309144189 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned from informed diplomatic sources in Moscow that the Soviet Union has agreed to supply Iran with modern technology in order to develop its heavy military and civil industries. It will also supply it with civil Ilyushin and Tupolev aircraft and will participate in refurbishing its military and civil airports.

These sources stressed that the talks the Iranian civil aviation minister and his delegation, which comprised a number of military men, recently held in Moscow were extremely successful on the level of reaching agreements with the Soviets on bilateral cooperation in these areas. The sources indicated that the subject of supplying Iran with Soviet weapons is still being discussed by the two sides.

East Europe

PRAVDA Publishes Gorbachev Message to Jaruzelski

PM0409104389 Moscow PRAVDA 2 Sep 89 p 1 Second Edition

[Text] To Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, president of the Polish People's Republic
Esteemed Comrade President!

Half a century has passed since the day that troops of fascist Germany treacherously attacked Poland. The Polish people and their army were the first to receive the blow of Germany's mighty military machine. The tragic outcome was predetermined by the inability of the states threatened by fascism and militarism to rally together and form a system of collective security.

It took long years and innumerable victims before the aggressor was halted and overthrown. Very heavy burdens were imposed on our peoples, toward whom World War II was particularly cruel and whose feats of arms meant so much for the triumph of freedom and justice. The events of that tragic time are moving further and further away from us into the past, but its lessons retain their topicality in our day, too. The most important of these is the need to exclude war from the life of mankind.

Today that has become a condition for the preservation and development of civilization and national and social progress.

It is not confrontation and the settling of accounts, but good-neighborliness, mutual respect, and a balance of interests of all states and peoples, the freedom of choice under strict observance of generally accepted norms of international law, the reduction of military potential to a level of defense sufficiency, the strengthening of trust and the guaranteeing of multifaceted international cooperation—that is the basis on which alone the construction of a common European home, and the stable development and peaceful and secure future of Europe and of the whole world community are possible.

Building a lasting peace will demand a great deal more effort and good will.

On behalf of the Soviet people, I wish to express confidence that the USSR and Poland will continue to act jointly as befits allies and friends.

With respect
M. Gorbachev

Polish Premier Interviewed on Soviet Ties

LD0109135589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0727 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 1 Sep (TASS)—"It is not possible to move toward a government of national accord without the communists". Under this headline, the newspaper MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI published in its latest edition an interview with Tadeusz Mazowiecki, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers. He stressed that he wants to be "the premier of a government of all Poles, and this means of a government of national accord, in which all the political forces of the country are represented." "Only together, he noted, can we carry responsibility in this difficult political and economic period."

Commenting on the statement made by Lech Walesa about the necessity "to return Poland to the situation in which it found itself before the beginning of the war, when it was a capitalist country," the head of the Polish government announced his intention to assist in the creation of a market economy, which gives effective results. In this connection, Mazowiecki stressed, recognition of the values of social justice is essential.

Speaking about the place of Soviet-Polish relations in the policy of the new government, Tadeusz Mazowiecki noted that these relations may receive a wider social base on account of the participation of different political groups which can be genuine partners of the USSR.

Touching on several anti-Soviet phenomena in Poland, Tadeusz Mazowiecki said that such tendencies reflect the mood "of very small groups that are dealing with various questions in an emotional way." "Solidarity" has never approved anti-Soviet excesses, the head of the Polish government said, but, on the contrary, has shown maturity and also enormous interest and good will in relation to what is being done in the USSR. The changes in your country are important for our changes too. We have huge sympathy for the changes in the USSR."

Rakowski on PZPR's Tactics at Current Stage

PM0409150189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Polish United Workers Party: Switch to Constructive Opposition Is Possible. Interview With M. Rakowski"]

[Text] Warsaw, 2 Sep—The Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] will be in a position to publicly announce its position regarding Poland's new coalition government only when T. Mazowiecki, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, presents to the PZPR leadership his concept of the party's participation in his cabinet, M. Rakowski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, stated in a PAP interview.

If these proposals do not live up to our expectations, then the PZPR will occupy only those government posts connected with the state's domestic and foreign security, and posts needed to guarantee Poland's strength and integrity, and the party itself will switch to constructive opposition. This position will involve criticizing the government's activity. But this would mean a departure from the roundtable accords.

Nonetheless, I remain an optimist, M. Rakowski stated, because it would be fatal to proceed from the premise that at each historic moment, when Poland has great new opportunities, they are without fail missed by people who are overexcited, who overestimate their powers, and go to extremes.

In connection with statements about the possibility of Poland leaving the alliance organizations, the party leader stated: "If, let us say, in a couple of years Poland falls out with its neighbors and loses its real economic base in the East—I am referring to its economy's numerous ties with the CEMA countries—and it becomes the object of deals between neighboring or more distant states which will talk about Poland without Poland, then the real achievements of the 45-year rule by left-wing forces will be lost." When it is a question of participation in the Warsaw Pact and remaining a member of the socialist community, then every Polish politician is faced with the choice of a realistic or suicidal position.

Speaking about the position within the PZPR, Rakowski stressed that he is in favor of the party's radical perestroyka. There is a need for broad discussion of what should be changed in the party, but, at the same time, now is not a suitable moment for family arguments and intrigues, for seeking support from other political forces for the sake of one's own career, or for contesting the leadership in the party of those members you supported a month ago. Today the party must above all cooperate in the name of stabilizing the new political situation, the new power structure, and only then tackle its own evolution. I am in favor of a party which represents the socialism of the future. The PZPR must support economic reforms in their most radical form, promote the most modern economic and social innovations, and build a modern society.

The PZPR has taken a bold step into the future, and it is moving in the direction of its own rebirth, Rakowski concluded. This path will be difficult and thorny, but those things which are desirable and great are never easy to achieve.

GDR Criticism of FRG 'Smear Campaign' Noted

LD0409210689 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Berlin 4/9/ TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports:

Berlin (ADN)—For weeks certain circles in the FRG, especially the media, have been waging an unbridled smear campaign against the German Democratic Republic, GDR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Wolfgang Meyer has said.

It centred on GDR citizens, who unlawfully had been given shelter in FRG Embassies or who had stayed in the Hungarian capital with the hope to get permission to leave Hungary for the FRG. This campaign was not only aimed at discriminating against the GDR and its allies but it was at the same time a cold-war style challenge to socialism, he told ADN on Monday.

What else was meant when FRG officials in advance and with promises that cannot not be kept welcomed GDR people who planned to flee the country, when the media which served as mouthpieces even gave instructions how to illegally leave the GDR and which reported about border breakthroughs, often organized by them, as if from a war frontline. Not to mention preparations to receive allegedly tens of thousands of refugees, Meyer said.

The spokesman added that the activities of official FRG institutions and public figures were presented as the well-known arrogation of "a duty to give custody" to all Germans, which was flouting the principles of international law, the treaties concluded between the two German states and the principles of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

That interference on the basis of a greater German ideology, which was notorious from the past, had been repeatedly and sharply denounced by the GDR. The GDR had also repeatedly pointed out that both Bonn's attempts at interference in sovereign GDR rights and attempts to blackmail other states could have grave consequences, Meyer said.

The GDR had promised citizens, who intended to unlawfully cross the border to the FRG via Hungary, that they would not be prosecuted after leaving the diplomatic missions and or returning to the GDR, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Wolfgang Meyer went on.

The spokesman said on the basis of a decree on travels abroad, which entered into force in the GDR last November, they could put forward their request in their native places, they also could make an appeal and had the right to court review.

He added that the GDR had also promised that these citizens could return to their occupations and their places of work. It was guaranteed that GDR lawyers represented these people at the authorities and in court and that they were given comprehensive legal assistance.

The GDR asked the respective authorities of other states that the GDR citizens be acquainted with these standpoints and that they brought their influence to bear that the GDR people voluntarily left the diplomatic missions and other places and returned home.

It was underlined once more: The stay in diplomatic missions or at other places outside the GDR did not result in preferential treatment and was no way to achieve a permanent exit from the GDR.

Meyer underlined concludingly that all attempts of certain circles to upset relations between the GDR and Hungary by means of the campaign around would-be GDR emigrants were built on sand.

Hungary's Nemeth Interviewed on Party Reform

LD0409220689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1100 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Budapest, 4 Sep (TASS)—TASS correspondent Andrey Kuklin reports:

"The forthcoming congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] has to approve the party's manifesto, and all party members, including the members of the reform circles, have the right to set out their proposals about the platform," said Miklos Nemeth, member of the MSZMP Presidium and prime minister, after the second national conference of MSZMP reform circles, in an interview with the Budapest correspondent of the Soviet news agency TASS.

"In the course of working out the manifesto, the committee appointed by the Central Committee and led by Imre Pozsgay tried to incorporate the various proposals into the document. However, the majority of party members consider the document only as a basis for debate. So it is not final yet: This is also a break with previous practice, when the documents approved by the Central Committee or other party bodies were almost considered gospel. The MSZMP manifesto is not like that, and this proves that we genuinely want a political party, and not a bureaucratic party of implementors, which is directed from above and in which the initiatives come from above.

"After the MSZMP party conference in May, 1988, the party itself initiated pluralism within the party and society. The diversity of platforms, ideas, and tendencies can only be of use for renewal.

From this aspect, the grass-root initiative of the reform circles indicated, both to the country and the party, the vital strength of the MSZMP, and that it is capable of renewal even under the bureaucratic system that still exists for the time being", Nemeth said.

"This is true not only of the 10,000 communists who have unanimously joined an MSZMP reform circle, but also of the party members who sympathize with and support the activity of the reform circles. This movement is a fact today, and intensifies the base to renew the MSZMP. The goals it pursues are well-intentioned, and I am confident that the results of its activity will be positive.

"At present, very many kinds of forces are represented in the MSZMP. The party should define itself and create its position. I am confident that the entire party will be renewed on the road of radical reforms, and that it will make it possible for anyone who decides that what the party manifesto contains doesn't suit them to leave."

West Europe

Thatcher To Meet Gorbachev 23 Sep

LD0509081789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] A working meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and the Prime Minister of Great Britain Margaret Thatcher will take place on 23 September. She will make a short stop over in Moscow on her way from Tokyo to London.

Komplektov Receives FRG's Schaefer

LD0409150389 Moscow TASS in English 1452 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov received Helmut Schaefer, state minister of the West German Foreign Ministry, today.

They discussed Soviet-West German relations in the light of Mikhail Gorbachev's recent official visit to West Germany, as well as several international issues.

The conversation passed in the atmosphere of openness and mutual understanding, in line with the new quality of Soviet-West German relations.

USSR-UN Forum Held in Copenhagen

LD0409083989 Moscow TASS in English 2105 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Copenhagen September 4 TASS—The Soviet Union and the United Nations, such was the theme of a two-day international conference that ended here on Sunday. The forum organised by Denmark-USSR society and the Danish United Nations Association was attended by politicians and public figures from a number of European countries, representatives of United Nations institutions. The Soviet Union was represented by Academician Georgiy Arbatov, director of the institute of the USA and Canada at the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate.

Special attention at the forum was given to the initiatives Mikhail Gorbachev advanced in his United Nations address on December 7, 1988. The resolution adopted by the conference points to a broad positive response to this address in the world. The delegates supported the Soviet leader's proposal for establishing an emergency environemntal aid centre and an international space laboratory for monitoring the state of environment, the proposal for creating a world space organisation.

The forum declared that jurisdiction of the international court in the Hague with regard to the interpretation and application of agreements in the area of human rights is obligatory for all states and came out for radical steps to resolve the problem of indebtedness of developing countries.

The conference urged the governments of the USSR and the USA to make appropriate initiatives toward complete implementation of provisions of Articles 43 and 45 of the United Nations Charter on efforts toward the maintenance of international peace and security. The delegates supported the plans of turning the north of Europe into a nuclear weapons free zone and declared in favour of an early opening of talks on the reduction of naval armaments, also in northern waters.

The conference emphasised the need to develop a constructive dialogue in the United Nations framework, as well as between separate countries and groups of countries to promote the quest for the solution to basic problems of global and regional scope. The participants in the meeting noted that all-round consolidation of the United Nations as an organisation called upon to ensure peace, cooperation and universal security is a task of extreme importance.

FRG Official Concerned Over Baltic Demands

LD0309200289 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Bonn September 3 TASS—Carl Ewen, deputy of the Bundestag from the Social Democratic Party of Germany, has expressed serious concern for the destiny of perstroyka in the Soviet Union in view of attempts by nationalist forces in some union republics to destabilise the situation in the country.

"The new Soviet leadership's course towards democratisation and glasnost is supported by a majority of the soviet people," he told TASS.

"The current restructuring in all spheres of social life in the Soviet Union awakens people's political activity. The creative energies which can and must be used for the good of the entire society and for political and economic development of all nations are awakening in people.

"Unfortunately, the processes of perestroyka and glasnost are also accompanied by negative trends," the parliamentarian said.

"Concern is aroused in particular by the fact that the nationalist-minded circles in the Baltic republics abuse the opportunities which offer themselves now as a result of democratisation.

"Their demands for special rights for members of one nation to the detriment of another can hardly be referred to as democratic, not to mention the fact that calls are followed by concrete political steps.

"A serious threat to stability on the continent and in the Soviet Union itself is posed by separatist actions in the Baltic region under the motto of restoring historical justice and democracy in those areas.

"Firstly, it is doubtful that democracy in those republics prior to the second world war had as deep roots as is asserted in statements.

"Secondly, in the event of the republics' secession from the Soviet Union, which does not meet the interests of the Baltic peoples, their strong economic ties with the other regions of the Soviet Union will be cut off.

"The question of the very possibility of their existence as sovereign state formations will arise, considering the fact that the Baltic republics are not rich in natural and raw material resources. Hopes which those circles set on Western economic aid can harly materialise.

"The search for ways towards democratisation and renewal of Soviet society and towards a solution of complex economic problems should be conducted within the framework of the existing federation of Soviet republics, and not outside the Soviet Union," the parliamentarian believes.

"Only through joint efforts of all peoples and nations it is possible to overcome the errors and distortions of the past period and ensure a proper level of development of the entire state, every nation and individual citizen.

"The role of the Russian language as a connecting link in economic ties between nations grows in this connection. International experience proves the need for the existence of a common official language within a multi-ethnic state, with all member-nations, naturally, retaining their ethnic distictiveness and culture, including the language. Such an example is provided by India where English has been adopted as a common language despite the colonial past, and by other countries, including European ones.

"Even in the Federal Republic of Germany, there is a common language—the literary German language. As a person coming from East Frisia I have command of the local dialect. It is understood by members of this linguistic group in the Netherlands but in no way by Bavarians whose language, in turn, would not be understood by the inhabitants of the Rhine regions," the parliamentarian said.

Ewen can judge the developments in the Soviet Union not as a casual armchair observer. As chairman of the FRG-USSR Regional Society, he repeatedly visited the Soviet Union, and had meetings with representatives of various Soviet republics both in the USSR and back at home.

He made a big contribution in particular to the success of the recently-concluded Kazakhstan days in the FRG's north. Therefore his estimates of the processes taking place in the Soviet Union are based not only on reports by the FRG's mass media, which quite often present the processes in a distorted light, but also on his own practical experience.

Alleged Foreknowledge of Palme Murder Discussed

LD0109155189 Moscow International Service in Swedish 1800 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] [Announcer] Radio Moscow's Nordic section concludes the "The World Today" program with a commentary by Oleg Vokulovskiy. The subject today is the campaign set in motion by certain Swedish mass media, in which it is claimed that the Soviet side knew in advance that there were plans to murder Olof Palme.

The first thing I thought of when I heard this sensational news, Oleg Vokulovskiy writes, was that I had heard something similar elsewhere. Then I recalled where and when it was. Only a few days after the murder of the Swedish prime minister, the then unknown European Workers' Party [EWP] reported that Moscow had had something to do with the murder.

This report was not especially surprising, anyway. In the first place, the EWP was simply forced to say something—the more absurd the better—to deflect allegations against themselves. In the second place, the EWP and its leader, Lyndon Larouche, have for many years attributed to Moscow all sorts of world catastrophes and atrocities—if not all, then at least 90 percent of them. The remaining 10 percent they blame on the British queen, Henry Kissinger, and someone else—I don't remember whom.

Anyway, this was only the EWP, and regarding their statements as serious is the same as starting a discussion about humanism with a persistent (?liar). But now, well-known media such as Swedish radio and television come forward with claims that the Soviet Union knew something in advance. We should not be too critical of Swedish radio, which, like so many others before it, has been [word indistinct] and [word indistinct] sitting in an office with a sign saying Security Police [Saepo] on the door, and which occasionally pleases its compatriots with the most incredible sensations.

So what has the Swedish security police got to do with this surprising sensation? If one tries to work it out, it seems even more absurd. Saepo has recently been very much plagued by scandal, concerning the service's bugging of both Swedes' and foreigners' telephone conversations. This was quite illegal bugging. And to correct the impression of Saepo's bad upbringing, apparently some [word indistinct] person within this organization has found out what strange use can be made of eavesdropping, even if it is illegal.

Saepo's claims are entirely based on the bugging of a Soviet diplomat's telephone conversations, or more correctly, references to a bugging. Sweden's TV viewers got no other useful arguments. Look how important it is to have (?your head and sharp eyes) about you, claims Saepo now, having strained its ears together with the CIA—something which is now well-known.

Of course, the inventor of the sensation did not think of the possible consequences. If everything really happened as Saepo says, one wonders why the Swedish security police did not take immediate steps to increase Palme's protection, since they had gotten this valuable information from the Soviet source? Or was it simply that there was no such information? Oleg Vokulovskiy writes in conclusion from Radio Moscow.

Political & Social

Chebrikov Cited on Baltic Republics, Perestroyka

'Decisive Actions' Needed

LD0109163289 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—"The new school year will see major changes in all spheres of the life of Soviet society", Viktor Chebrikov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, said in his speech at a meeting of the Academy of Social Sciences at the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee held to mark the official opening of the new school year. He said economic relations, the economic mechanism are being restructured, and the social reorientation of the economy is taking place.

However, the situation in Soviet society remains quite complex. Many burning problems have not yet been resolved. And some of them even became more acute. He noted, specifically, that interethnic conflicts have a negative effect on the life of society. Some have of late been trying to undermine unity of the Soviet multiethnic state, to set peoples at loggerheads. In the recently published statement on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics, the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee drew a clear distinction between the aspirations of extremist nationalist elements that sow hostility among people and are interested in destabilisation, and genuine interests of the Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian peoples who, just as anybody else, need peace, tranquility and wellbeing.

Chebrikov believes that in the name of honour and dignity of one's own people, it is necessary to cut short instigatory actions of those who, speculating on national sentiments, try to achieve not brotherhood and good-neighbourliness, but inter-ethnic strife and hatred, try to gain a political capital on human blood and satisfy their inordinate ambitions. There is a need for decisive actions, using the strength and humaneness of law, Chebrikov said. He said this applies also to the law determining responsibility for the whipping up of ethnic strife and animosity, for calls for violence and pogroms on ethnic basis. Murderers, violators and bandits should not go unpunished, no matter what flags they raise and in what brightly-coloured national costumes they are clad. Chebrikov said a number of additional measures will be taken to strengthen law-enforcement bodies and enhance their prestige. Their responsibility will, certainly, grow, too.

Dwelling on the tasks of the Academy of Social Sciences, the secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee emphasised that the party is justified in expecting that it will make a greater contribution to theory, to the creation of a new concept of ideological work so as to scientifically substantiate and illuminate the road to renewal of socialism in present-day conditions, to deepen the theory of perestroyka on the basis of Marxist-Leninist analysis.

Need for National Unity Emphasized

LD0109165489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 1 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newcast; report on speech by Viktor Chebrikov, no titles given, at a 1 September Academy of Social Sciences meeting celebrating the start of the academic year—recorded]

[Text] More than 20,000 post-graduate students began studies today in the country's higher party educational establishments. A festive meeting at the Academy of Social Sciences attached to the CPSU Central Committee was addressed by Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov.

After noting that the present academic year will bear the mark of major changes in all spheres of life in our society, Comrade Chebrikov stressed that many pressing problems are not only as yet unsolved, but have even become more acute.

[Begin Chebrikov recording] I am sure we've all read the recently published draft of the CPSU's platform entitled the nationalities policy of the party in current conditions. As you realize, the ruling party in a multinational country is simply obliged to have a precise platform on so important and sensitive an issue as the nationalities question. That platform must become the political basis for developing party work, for the extensive legislative activity of the soviets in strengthening inter-ethnic relations, and for tackling all the urgent issues arising in this sphere. That is why our multinational state has such need of unity, for it is in unity that our strength lies.

Recently, certain people have been trying to undermine that unity and set the peoples against one another. A statement by the party Central Committee on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics was recently published. It notes that perestroyka has become a favorable medium for the rapid growth of national self-awareness among the peoples of the Baltic republics. They have become actively involved in the profound transformations which are being effected through the policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state.

However, great influence has gradually begun to be exerted on the development of events by groupings acting from anti-soviet, extremist, and separatist positions. The Central Committee has drawn a clear distinction between the aspirations of extremist nationalistic elements which are sowing discord among people and have an interest in destablilization, and the genuine interests of the peoples of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, which, like every one of us, need peace, calm, and prosperity.

As you understand, the statement is above all a reflection of the Party Central Committee's concern for our country's future. That is its main purpose. Judging by the signals reaching us from the localities, and by the letters, the working people of the whole country have understood that alarm, concern, and support—as one says, the letter and spirit of that document. They consider that extremism and nationalism, by speculating on the slogans of perestroyka, could in reality destroy perestroyka itself.

I won't conceal that of course the statement did not please everyone. There are those who say that it as a hard statement. But the statement reflects the position of the party, the position of the Central Committee; and it is a clear and precise position. We hope it will help communists, non-party members, and all honorable people to avert disaster in our multinational home. [end recording] [video shows chebrikov speaking at the meeting]

PRAVDA Reports Chebrikov Speech

PM0109211889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report on speech by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at 1 September CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy Knowledge Day ceremony: "More Actively Renewing Knowledge, Upholding the Party's Line"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting was held at the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy on 1 September to mark Knowledge Day and the start of the academic year.

Soviet and foreign students and postgraduate students and professorial and teaching staff of the Social Sciences Academy were present in the auditorium.

V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, congratulated the academy collective on the start of the academic year.

This academic year, he said, will be marked by major changes in all spheres of our society's life. Perestroyka is growing more profound in economic relations and the economic management mechanism, and a social reorientation of the economy is in progress. What are basically emergency measures are being formulated and implemented to improve finances and money circulation and eliminate the shortage of consumer goods. Expenditure on defense and management is being cut and the conversion of defense sectors of industry is developing. As you know, a decision has been adopted on improving the material position of nearly 30 million pensioners. Other measures are being drawn up to help poorly-off citizens.

The full power of the people and their representative organs, the soviets, is becoming real to an ever increasing degree. All of us were forced to look at the problems of our life in a new way by the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and the USSR Supreme Soviet session. They mercilessly uncovered many unresolved questions.

The new political thinking formulated by perestroyka has made major breakthroughs possible in world politics, first and foremost in the disarmament sphere. As a result the international situation has changed, the Soviet Union's prestige in the world community has increased, and cooperation is widening among different countries.

However, the situation in society, in our own home, remains very complex. Many urgent problems not only have yet to be resolved; some of them have even grown more acute.

The economic reform is being introduced, but the economic mechanism is working only feebly as yet. Some people saw democratization and the abandonment of pressure tactics as weakness on the part of the leadership and started to get lazy. Group egotism is revealing itself, infecting whole collectives in pursuit of high wages. Hence the unjustified price rises, the disappearance of cheap output, the shortage even of goods that had always been in plentiful supply. Nor can one leave out of account the low level of general culture, the culture of labor and human relations, the unprecedented growth of crime, and the strikes that have recently become frequent. All this naturally destabilizes the situation in society, traumatizes people's minds, fills them with uncertainty, and leads to dissatisfaction with the state of affairs in the country.

Society's life is adversely affected by the interethnic conflicts that have become more acute. I am sure you all read the recently published draft CPSU platform, "The Party's Nationalities Policy in Present Conditions." The ruling party in a multinational country simply has to have a clear platform on such an important, sensitive issue as the nationalities issue. The platform should become a political basis for the development of party work and for wide legislative activity by the soviets to strengthen interethnic relations and resolve all the questions that have become urgent in this sphere. Unfortunately we have accumulated a good many such questions—historical, economic, social, political, ecological, and demographic.

That is why our multinational state so badly needs unity, because in unity is its strength. Some people have recently been trying to undermine this unity and set the peoples against one another. The other day the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics was published. It notes that perestroyka provided fertile soil for the rapid growth of the national self-awareness of the peoples of the Baltic republics, and they became actively involved in the processes of profound transformations within the framework of the policy of the Communist Party and Soviet state. However, the development of events gradually came under great influence from groupings holding anti-Soviet, separatist positions. The Central Committee clearly distinguished between the aspirations of extremist, nationalist elements who sow enmity among people and are committed to destabilization, and the true interests of the peoples of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, who, like all of us, need peace, tranquillity, and prosperity.

The statement is first and foremost a reflection of the Central Committee's concern for the country's future. That is its main purpose. Judging by press reports and local information, working people throughout the country assessed this anxiety and concern with understanding, and they support, as the saying goes, the letter and spirit of this document. They believe that extremism and nationalism, while speculating on the slogans of perestroyka, could in fact blow it apart. I will not deny that not everyone liked the statement; some say that they have been insulted undeservedly. The statement is the party's position, the Central Committee's position, a precise and clear position. We hope that it will help Communists, nonparty people, and all honest people to avert disaster in our multinational home.

For the sake of the honor and dignity of one's own people, it is necessary resolutely to cut short the inflammatory actions of those who, speculating on national sentiments, try to cultivate not the fruits of fraternity and good-neighborliness, but the thorns of interethnic enmity and hatred; Who try to make political capital out of people's blood, to satisfy their own excessive ambition and, if they can, to push their way closer to power or even seize it, without shrinking from mercilessly casting the people into an abyss of suffering.

We believe that many conflicts and tensions could have been avoided if the party, which is today in an entirely new situation, had restructured its own activity faster. It must be admitted that this has not yet happened. That is why the main conclusion in M.S. Gorbachev's report at the July conference at the Central Committee had such an alarming ring to it—perestroyka in the party is lagging substantially behind the processes taking place in society. A real threat has arisen of the weakening of the CPSU's leading role in perestroyka, and therefore in society. The party must rethink many things today and invest its work with real thought and real action. After all, in the party as a whole, we have the best forces of the working class, peasantry, and intelligentsia. True, you may come across a bureaucratized party official, a dishonest person with a party card who has found his way by chance into a lofty position, an opportunist and careerist. There were and still are such people in the party. But attempts to cast aspersions on the entire party because of this are nothing but deliberate falsification of the facts. The majority of Communists devote all their efforts, knowledge, and experience to the cause of the struggle for the ideals of socialism, and that cannot be ignored. If a Communist bides his time on the defensive today, someone else will inevitably seize the initiative. That is the logic of the political struggle. Therefore we must boldly and resolutely discard obsolete methods of work, know how to conduct dialogue with any individual and any social organization, have a clear program, and take concrete action.

Many Communists, especially in the Baltic and Transcaucasian republics and Moldavia, forgoing their party-mindedness, have ceased to act like political fighters and often go over covertly or overtly to frankly erroneous platforms. The role of primary party organizations and party groups in mobilizing Communists and nonparty people to rebuff ideological opposition, separatist sentiments, and national extremism has lessened. There has been a decline in the accountability of party members for participation in actions that are unconstitutional and contrary to the CPSU Statutes and for spreading rumors and conjectures that discredit our Soviet system and the party's policy and support appeals for the division and separation, along national lines, of trade unions, the Communist Youth League, creative unions, and other social organizations.

Some party committees have lost their influence on their own press organs and on television and radio broadcasting. Insinuations and tendentious interpretations of various events and conflicts not infrequently appear in their pages and broadcasts, and unscrupulous people profit from this. If party workers today are suffering failure at rallies and in debates and in the resolution of life's acute contradictions, it is not only the lack of polemical skills, keenness of vision, and boldness that are to blame, but to a great extent poor theoretical training. It is important for party workers always and everywhere to adhere to clear philosophical and class positions.

Time, the speaker went on, makes new, higher demands on the legal training of party workers. Today, in order to resolve many concrete problems in a skilled and competent fashion, you need substantial legal knowledge and a high standard of legal education. Heated debates have broken out over the concept, content, and stages in the formation of a genuine rule-of-law socialist state. An understanding of its criteria and most important traits is gradually crystallizing.

In the struggle against crime, a very firm, tough approach has been formulated. Special ad hoc committees for the struggle against crime have been set up everywhere and are beginning their work. However, from past experience one can say that success will not come in this matter unless the entire party, the public, the labor collectives, and every honest Soviet person becomes involved.

The only adviser in this matter is the law, and it is necessary to act resolutely, using both its strength and its humanity. Today, however, we often see a different picture. As you know, citizens' basic rights are guaranteed by the constitution and it is stipulated that the violation of some of these rights is punishable by law. Take, for instance, the law that specifies accountability for kindling national discord and enmity and calling for violence and pogroms on grounds of nationality. What happens in practice? The law exists, but the law enforcement workers, those who should watch over its strict fulfillment, are slow to apply it. One wonders: Why? Clearly here too the habit of acting under orders, on instructions from above, plays a considerable part. Yet no prompting, no directive should be necessary for those who watch over the protection of people's rights, health, and lives, especially since the law itself requires this of them. Killers, thugs, and gangsters must not go unpunished, whatever flags they hide behind and whatever brightly colored national costumes they don. Incidentally, party workers too should have a thorough knoweldge of all this. A number of additional measures will be adopted to strengthen the law enforcement organs and enhance their authority, and demands on them will, of course, be stepped up.

Speaking about the tasks facing the Social Sciences Academy, the CPSU Central Committee secretary stressed that the party is entitled to expect the academy to intensify its contribution to theoretical activity and the creation of a new concept of ideological work in order to scientifically substantiate and light the way for practical work to renew socialism in present-day conditions and to deepen the theoretical base of perestroyka on the basis of Marxist-Leninist analysis. This is the only way to predict the reefs and submerged rocks which will inevitably be encountered and to promptly find possible ways to avoid them.

We are currently acutely aware, V.M. Chebrikov said, of the shortage of in-depth theoretical development studies. Life is in ferment and demanding a scientific interpretation of many complex and disparate problems, but for the most part science is silent. I believe that the unfavorable situation in our social sciences as a while is having a definite impact on the state of scientific research in party higher educational establishments. As is known, they are still divorced from the acute problems of actual reality and suffer the ills of dogmatism and blandness. And we are still producing too few development studies and monographs dissecting the present-day problems on whose solution the success of perestroyka depends to a considerable extent. And meanwhile the resulting vacuum is often filled by various dubious hypotheses and ideas which are far removed from science, the underlying values of socialism, or the fundamental interests of working people.

It is a matter of honor and party duty for the academy's scientists to achieve a radical breakthrough on the theoretical front. There is a need for in-depth, comprehensive theoretical studies of the problems of ensuring socioeconomic and spiritual development and questions relating to political leadership of these processes.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary dwelt in detail on the specific tasks facing party educational establishments. He analyzed problems of social development and party work requiring in-depth scientific elaboration, particularly stressing the need to increase the party's intellectual potential in every possible way.

Social Sciences Academy Rector R.G. Yanovskiy spoke in reply.

Ligachev on Belorussia Visit, Perestroyka

LD0209215189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1745 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Interview granted by Yegor Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, to an unidentified interviewer in Gomel oblast, Belorussia; date not given]

[Text] [Interviewer] Yegor Kuzmich, this is not your first time in Belorussia. What is the reason on this occasion for your visit to our republic and in particular to Gomel and Gomel oblast?

[Ligachev] Indeed, you are right, Aleksey Yakovlevich, this is not my first time. I think it's my fourth visit to Belorussia. And, by the way, I always find it greatly satisfying because here the whole republican party organization works in, I'd say, a very thorough and interesting manner. And altogether, and I shall say this not just for the sake of saying it but because it is true, the people of Belorussia, the communists of Belorussia deserve every respect. They have both a fine history and splendid things at the present time.

And now, concerning the point of your question. I think that once the principal political directives of the policy of perestroyka are worked out, the time comes for, I'd say, intensive, businesslike organizational work. And thus I and my comrades try to engage actively in this business. I have not come here from Moscow. We also visited Tula and then came to Gomel. We are now involved in the implementation of the political directives worked out at the March Plenum of the Party Central Committee for providing our people with foodstuffs. We are first and foremost searching for ways which would in a short time, enable us if not to remove, then at least to ease the critical situation in the food supply to the population. In order to solve the whole of this problem completely we have to get down to a whole complex of measures. There was a time when we were trying to do it through just one, two, or three measures. And among these measures there is the task of technically reequipping agriculture, collective and state farms, and our peasantry. And our trip is meant to look at how the agricultural machine manufacturing industry is solving this major task defined by the March Plenum of the Party Central Committee. There we examined questions connected with harvesting and essentially here too that was the subject of discussion.

It is a question of creating perfect, reliable equipment for, in particular, fodder production and it has to be new, quality equipment which would enable us, with the existing resources, as they say, to get significantly more such valuable products as milk and meat.

I must say that the collective of the Gomal Agricultural Machine Manufacturing Production Association has created an excellent machine, a fodder harvesting complex, "Polesye". We are convinced that this is a machine of world standard. And the task consists of bringing it into series production as quickly as possible.

I would like to read you a very interesting letter which the collective of the Gomel Association received from a machine operator from Dnepropetrovsk Oblast in the Ukraine, Comrade Kirichko. He writes to the secretary of the Party Committee. It's an interesting letter:

I have never written a letter, and especially such important ones, I could say. But having worked a little on the "Polesye" experimental machine, I got down to composing this letter to you. Over the 25 years that I have been getting all sorts of equipment I never felt like a machine operator.

For the first time it occurred in such a way—I'll note that that is how he writes—that I walk to this machine with pleasure. He concludes thus: I would like to ask you and all communists at the Gomselmash plant that the works, if this is possible, make within the shortest timespan not experimental, but serially produced machines of this class. All we machine operators have come to believe that our Soviet machines, too, can work well.

[Interviewer] You know, Yegor Kuzmich, this letter, an assessment by a machine operator, in my view, appears as a vivid contrast to the background of assessments by machine operators who have examined the output of the agricultural machine building industry.

[Ligachev] That's right, that's right.

[Interviewer] Everyone criticized, everyone criticized. Now, finally, what do you get?

[Ligachev] The criticism was deserved, but now a machine has come along that is, as it were, of world class. It has already been received very well by people.

[Interviewer] Yegor Kuzmich, I was observing when you met with the workers, with design workers and technologists, that the point under discussion was how to break out of the rut and how to place this interesting innovation as quickly as possible on the conveyor belt?

[Ligachev] I would briefly single out two or three points here. First, the efforts of the center and those of local collectives have to be united—the efforts of the republic and of union departments, and of the party organization and labor collective of the Gomselmash production association . All we need is a uniting of efforts. There are problems that can be resolved in the locality and there are problems that can be resolved at the center. That is the first point.

Second, it is absolutely necessary to organize very active, I would say harmonious work, without any hitches, between, or more exactly, the work of design workers, technologists, and workers, for at issue is the mastering of new technology, and without such detailed, without such, I would say, businesslike cooperation, we will not get by.

What I would put in the third place is a continuation of the intensive work to create working, living, and domestic conditions for people. If we succeed in doing this, then I think, I am sure, that 2 or 3 years will pass and this machine will move out, on a broad front as they say, onto the fields of collective and state farms. To put it briefly, this will mean a very major step in the technical retooling of the countryside, and our agricultural machine-building industry moving out on to the international market, finally, in this regard.

[Interviewer] At the numerous meetings you have had here at Gomselmash, in your conversations, there was a passionate, fervent, sharp conversation, impartial even. Yegor Kuzmich, how would you speak of the mood of the collective of Gomselmash, and in general, what is the atmosphere here?

[Ligachev] Well, in general, I will tell you that the atmosphere is a demanding one. People are demanding, first and foremost, the main things and the most elementary things. Give us resources, give us raw materials, give us materials, give us component parts, that is, create the conditions for work without stoppages, without disruptions, for high labor productivity. I consider these to be natural demands, and these were, indeed, very sharp conversations. I think that they were aimed at the work in hand and for the work in hand. Although I will say bluntly that at times here and there was the odd (?wet blanket), you understand. [chuckles]

[Interviewer] Some people remarked that there are a lot of people coming to Gomselmash from the center, senior, important people, but until now, they make promises and things do not move. Well, I now think, and when I attended the meeting of the Gomselmash party and economic activists, I, personally, formed the conviction that things will move, they will get out of the rut and indeed, they will put the machine on the conveyor belt, as now, as you have noted, the main thing, they will not drag out the time-scale, to ensure that it progresses as quickly as possible.

[Ligachev] You have caught the mood of the people correctly, that there are a lot of visits, a lot of decisions are made, but unfortunately, they are not carried out, and in some places, they simply make a downright mess of them. We have become convinced of this.

This is what I want to say. This time we will not pass anyone by. We will give our evaluation to all those organizations and their heads who have not fulfilled the decision of the Central Committee and the government and many ministerial and departmental decisions, both at the center and in the localities. I think that we will be correct. That is exactly in the spirit of the demands of the people now to raise discipline, from top and bottom and from bottom to top. We must do this, whatever the cost.

[Interviewer] Well, then, it was noted at the meeting of the party and economic aktiv, and at the meeting with you in the shops at the works that the machine builders of Gomel are not waiting, as they say, they are not coming along with their outstretched hands. They still have a lot that they are not using. They have reserves and possibilities.

[Ligachev] What did we draw people's attention to? To the fact that this machine is being mastered only very slowly, basing their production on technology that has already been fully worked out but is old fashioned. We saw again for ourselves—this is the paradox, you see—that often it is more profitable for an enterprise to work with old technology and produce a large series of items than to involve itself in mastering new technology. For that reason we are now thinking of helping in some way with financial subsidies, but at the same time we ask that they give up old technology a bit faster and open up the road to a large variety of new technology. I think we have come to an agreement with the collective. I too feel, as you do, that the mood is that we must solve this. I said right out on behalf of all my comrades that we will not join the company of those who have come and done nothing or little. We will strive to achieve the fulfillment of everything that has been talked about here.

[Interviewer] That is to say, I still remember your conversation with (Gennadiy Vasilyevich Barabanov), secretary of the Party Committee of the association and with the party activists. You asked: What have the report back and election given to us, to you, that is to say to Gomselmash? They said, the prestige of the party members is rising, rising, but still slowly.

[Ligachev] Well, I was happy that the elections had started in the spirit of the recommendations of the party Central Committee. What did I notice? First, to judge by the subjects of the conversations and talks, people are more demanding, more demanding not only of the more highly placed communists, but of those sitting beside them. Second, fresh people, as they say, active people, are coming into the leadership, so far just at grass roots level. I think this already means a lot.

[Interviewer] The widest possible range of questions cropped up in your talks and meetings, not only connected with production and with raising the prestige of party members, but they dealt with daily needs. Matches again, washing powder again, soap. I recall that you replied that things will be put right.

[Ligachev] There is simply no other solution, because such a great state that has won immense prestige and trust throughout the world—I have said it before and I say it again—it is shameful that it should go haywire over this soap and detergent. To judge from what the government has told us these questions will be solved in the very near future.

In connection with that I would like to say something a bit wider, about the general situation in the country, how I regard it, how I evaluate it. I think that a responsible and decisive time, as it seems to me, has now started. One should not imagine perestroyka as being something one can complete in a year or two. No. It is calculated for a long period of time. Five, 10 years, or more. Because it is no simple thing to restructure such a state and to bring it up to a new quality. There should be no illusions about this. There will be, as they say, rising slopes on this road, and there will be pot holes too. There will be victories, there will be defeats. We have to look realistically, but we must show endurance, as Mikhail Sergeyevich often stresses, and keep on moving along the path we have planned. This is of essential importance. That is the first thing.

Secondly, I think that in general the political situation is becoming more acute. Naturally, in connection with this, the workers and specialists, wherever I've met them, have asked me, in whatever form, the question: Why? Here there are a number of circumstances which explain that situation. But among them, I would note the following: That at present, as never before, there is occurring, on the one hand, a consolidation of healthy forces on a basis of principle, and not just consolidation in general; and on the other hand, there is a demarcation of political forces going on.

I want to repeat once again that the people and the party are, both in word and deed, solidly for perestroyka. And everyone understands that perestroyka is the strengthening of socialism and the discovery of its enormous potential capabilities. But there are forces which have an entirely different conception of perestroyka, associated with the eroding of socialism and the achievement of their own ambitious aims. We must be clear about this, if we want to be realists, politicians. Even a blind man, as they say, can see that. And, moreover, these people who are forever attacking the party, the Soviet Union, our glorious army, and the security organs—we know this, and many of the working people, specialists and the party aktiv have said this to me—are defaming good communists and good leaders, you know? They've told me themselves that for them, the worse things are, the better, since they are then better able, they say, to worm their way to power and carry out some of what they've planned. Therefore, from that point of view, the workers are right to demand that we take measures, but not measures of some sort associated with repressions, you know, or diktat, but above all by political means. We have plenty of scope for that, a wide gamut.

There's another thing I want to say: that nationalists and separatists of every kind are working very actively to disunite the leadership, weaken the leadership. There is quite a lot of gossip and rumors of all sorts going about, and this is not being done for any innocuous purpose. Today I quoted at the meeting of the aktiv, and I'd like to stress this, the latest example, the statement by the party Central Committee on the state of affairs in the Baltic republics. They have already put about a version, which is going the rounds in the West and in our own country, that this is not a document of the whole Politburo, not a document adopted on the initiative of

Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, but a document of only one group of members of the Politburo. They have declared this statement to be a document directed against perestroyka, and undermining perestroyka. In fact, its purpose is precisely to create the most favorable conditions for perestroyka and speed up the processes of perestroyka.

Finally, here's the last thing I want to say: We must now work very actively to create conditions for people to live in tranquility and safety. Possibly you Belorussians don't feel this so much...

[Interviewer] Possibly.

[Ligachev] Yes, but in other republics we see what a state of anxiety the people are living in. And that is, after all, very significant. When people live in fear and doubt, you know, and our sacred duty is, by political means, and by the forces of the law, within the framework of the constitution—no violations!—to provide for the security, the personal security of everyone: good, normal conditions for people's lives.

[Interviewer] Yegor Kuzmich, the last thing...

[Ligachev] And another thing—excuse me, I wanted to say another thing. If you talk about the main way to solve these tasks, I would consider that this would be first and foremost to strengthen the unity of the party. To strengthen the ideological and organizational unity of our ranks, and to step up in all ways the contacts between the party and the masses. This is the most important problem. After all, things have got so far here that individual communists are beginning to take part in clashes between nationalities, in gatherings of all sorts of a nationalist and anti- Soviet nature, in strikes. They are organizing all sorts of factions, of some organizations, and even in places are thinking of leaving not only the structure of the federation—that is already significant in itself—but the structure of the CPSU as well. This is a fact.

For this reason we must strengthen the unity of the party in all ways. I want to say this, and this is where I shall end: not by means of some diktat or other, not by means of some sort of repression, but in all-round strengthening of the unity, the ideological and organizational unity of the ranks of the CPSU, on the basis of the development of internal party democracy, glasnost, the all-round strengthening of party discipline, the strengthening of the whole life of the party in the framework of the rules of our party.

Further on Interview

LD0209194389 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 2 TASS—Describing the political situation in the Soviet Union, Yegor Ligachev, member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, said that, on the one hand, consolidation of healthy forces is now taking place on a principled basis and, on the other, a division of political forces is under way.

He said in an interview with Soviet television today that the people and the party are for perestroyka. But there are forces which have a quite different understanding of perestroyka, connected with erosion of socialism and achievement of their ambitious ends.

Noting that nationalists and separatists of various hues are actively working to disunite and weaken the leadership, he refuted a version which appeared in the West and in the country that the statement of the CPSU Central Committee on the Baltic republics is not a document of the entire Politburo but only of a group of its members.

Ligachev pointed out that the document "is aimed at creating the most favourable conditions for perestroyka". "Our sacred duty is to ensure security of every person and normal living conditions through political means, forces of law and in line with the Constitution," he said.

Ligachev named the most important problem the strengthening of ideological and organisational unity of the CPSU and consolidation of relations between the party and the masses. According to him, this can be achieved by developing intra-party democracy, glasnost and all-round strengthening of party discipline in line with the CPSU rules.

Ligachev Visits Chernobyl-Stricken Areas

LD0109204389 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Comrade Ligachev is in Gomel oblast. Today he visited the population centers that were worst hit by the Chernobyl accident.

[Correspondent A. Zhuk] Nowadays nobody lives in this settlement. You know, somehow it is horrendous to look at the abandoned houses. What used to be gardens are now filled with weeds the height of a man. Do you know the name of this place? Solnechnyy [sunny]. Once upon a time, people built really good houses, and this House of Culture, in the hope that their children and grandchildren would continue to live in this, their home territory.

Alas, an unexpected tragedy struck. Here the radiation pollution level exceeds the permissible norm, the norm considered safe for people's health and lives. There are more than 50 villages—large and small—in Braginskiy rayon that have been left like this following the Chernobyl accident, which meant that the population had to be evacuated. [video shows weeds, danger signs, deserted buildings with broken doors and windows, apples and berries dripping from trees, telephone lines that appear to have been cut]

In his meetings and conversations with the people of the rayon, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev inquired into how these issues are being tackled and how the measures designed to deal with the consequences of the accident are being implemented.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified woman] Tell me, please, how are we supposed to live? We are afraid of the water; we are afraid of the sun; we are afraid of the grass; we are afraid of the soil. Our children know nothing but asphalt. How are we supposed to live? How are we supposed to bring up our children when we have to say: Do not touch that apple! The wind has being blowing and the rain has been falling, radioactive rain. How can we go on living?

[Ligachev] I understand well that even if everything is done but you are still living in a place that has been subjected to radiation, then that leads to depression and agitation, and...

[Women's voices, interrupting] And nervous tension and irritability! That is the main thing!

[Ligachev, continuing]...ruins the calm way of life. I believe the opportunity must be offered, and a system of state benefits set up to allow for free exit from this zone. That is the main principle that I think we should enshrine in the programs. In the near future these programs will be examined by the party Central committee and the government. I know that you live in difficult and complicated conditions. You probably can confirm that we have done all we can, but we have not done everything. Now I think we will enshrine this principle: On a voluntary basis, whoever deems it possible and necessary should be able to leave these rayons. [end recording]

[Announcer] Over the space of 3 days, Comrade Ligachev has been finding out about the work of the labor collective and the party organizations at the Tula combine works and Gomselmash production associations. During visits to design organizations, to the shop floors and sections, and at meetings of the party economic aktivs, steps designed to boost the output and improve the quality of harvesting machines were examined. [video shows Ligachev talking to people, shots of his entourage]

Further on Ligachev Visit

PM0409133989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Retooling the Countryside"]

[Text] Collective farms [kolkhoz] and state farms [sovkhoz] have recently experienced an increasingly acute need for modern, highly productive, and reliable equipment.

The "Rostselmash" Production Association has organized the manufacture of the "Don" grain-harvesting combine whose technical specifications are equal to the world standards for combine harvesters of a similar class. At the same time, machine operators are worried because many combine harvesters are delivered to the countryside without reaping attachments. The reaping units are manufactured by the "Tulskiy Kombaynovyy Zavod" Production Association. Thousands of combine harvesters in the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have been without reaping attachments since the beginning of this year's harvest.

There are major shortages of feed-harvesting equipment. This is one aspect of the question. The quality aspect is even worse. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz machine operators have grave complaints about machine builders as regards the KSK-100 feed-harvesting combine, which is unreliable in operation and fails to ensure the required grinding of corn and grass. This, in its turn, reduces milk and meat yields from cattle, and the country suffers a shortfall of millions of tonnes of valuable output.

Meanwhile, the "Polesye" feed-harvesting unit has been developed in Belorussia and meets the standards of the best similar machines abroad. But its series production is being intolerably delayed. The association was due to manufacture 500 units in 1988 and 1,000 units this year. The target remains unfulfilled.

Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spent 3 days familiarizing himself with the work of labor collectives and party organizations at the "Tulskiy Kombaynovyy Zavod" Production Association and "Gomselmash." Measures to increase the manufacture and improve the quality of harvesting machines were examined in detail during visits to the associations and planning and design organizations, directly at sections and shops, and afterward at meetings of the party and economic aktivs. In his speeches to the aktiv meetings, Ye.K. Ligachev noted that the lag in the manufacture of harvesting equipment is conditioned primarily by the fact that the necessary conditions for people's labor and life have not been created everywhere. Shortages of housing and of children's and medical institutions and the slow improvement of production life have a negative effect on the formation of stable labor collectives, on workers' professional skills, and on labor and technological discipline. He emphasized that the Belorussian republic party organization, the Gomel and Tula Oblast party organizations, and the associations' party committees bear a special responsibility for solving the tasks facing the machine building collectives. It is a case of developing agricultural machinery to world standards. The CPSU Central Committee March (1989) plenum specially emphasized the need to combine the perestroyka of production relations in the countryside with scientific and technical progress and the development of reliable and modern agricultural equipment.

Much will depend on the standards of work by the USSR Ministry of Automotive and Agricultural Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry and Instrument Making, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum

Industry, and the general directors and party organizations of the "Tulskiy Kombaynovyy Zavod" and "Gomselmash" Associations.

The tour of agricultural machine building enterprises was also associated with the fact the CPSU Central Committee Commission for Questions of Agrarian Policy will soon examine measures for sharply reducing losses in the agro-industrial complex as the shortest way to building up the country's food stocks.

Ye.K. Ligachev visited Gomel Oblast's Braginskiy Rayon, which suffered most as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. In the course of meetings and conversations with rayon residents, he asked about the implementation of measures to eliminate the accident's consequences, and visited kolkhoz members' holdings. The CPSU Central Committee secretary paid special attention to the organization of medical, trade, consumer, and cultural services for the population in the complex conditions. He spoke of additional measures being taken by the center to improve living conditions for people in rayons adjacent to Chernobyl.

During his visits to labor collectives, Ye.K. Ligachev was accompanied by Ye.Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; A.S. Kamay, first secretary of Gomel Oblast party committee [obkom]; A.A. Grakhovskiy, chairman of Gomel Oblast Soviet Executive Committee [oblispolkom]; Yu.I. Litvintsev, first secretary of Tula CPSU Obkom; V.D. Ananyev, chairman of Tula Oblispolkom; Ministers N.A. Pugin and V.I. Reshetnikov; Yu.P. Boyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply; V.I. Chernoivanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Commission for Food Supplies and Purchases.

Baltic Council Appeals to UN on CPSU Statement

LD0509091389 Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America 0000 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] [Pakeniene] Roma Pakeniene reporting. Yesterday the third sitting of the Baltic Council took place in the Latvian capital Riga.

The Baltic Council was set up last summer to work as a consulting body during the period between the Baltic assemblies. The Baltic Council consists of representatives of Estonian and Latvian Peoples' Fronts and Lithuanian's Sajudis.

Lithuanian's Sajudis is represented by Professor Vytautas Lansbergis, Bronius Kuzmickas, Romualdas Ozolas, Virgiijus Cepaitis, and Mecys Laurinkus, members of the Sajudis Seimas Council.

The third sitting which took place yesterday was an extraordinary one aimed at discussing the statement issued by the CPSU Central Committee concerning the situation in the Soviet Baltics. The opinions voiced had been discussed by representatives of peoples' fronts and in conclusion two documents were adopted. These express the joint opinion on the CPSU Central Committee statement.

Here is Virgilijus Cepaitis, member of the Baltic Council:

[Begin Capaitis recording] [words indistinct] appeal to the nations of the USSR in which we present our point of view (?on the statement). We also explained how much falsehood there was in the CPSU Central Committee statement. This falsehood means that administrations of the union republics are misinformed about the situation in the Baltics [words indistinct] and we also indicated that we believe the attitude of the USSR administration toward main issues in the country, such as the process of democratization, the Constitution, and our road toward a state ruled by law and order has changed because the constitutional right to self-determination of nations is no longer considered valid. This is how we understand the statement.

The second document which was adopted was a letter to the secretary general of the United Nations Xavier Perez de Cuellar.

In our letter we drew the U.N. secretary general's attention to the statement issued by the administration of the USSR containing direct threats to the Baltic nations that genocide will be used against them, because the statement says that if the process continues further this will cause catastrophic consequences and our nations could lose their vitality. [passage indistinct] The U.N. secretary general was asked to send a commission to investigate the situation in the Baltic republics. [end recording]

[Pakeniene] The appeal to the nations of the USSR and the letter to the UN secretary general which were adopted yesterday in Riga by the Baltic Council will be distributed through the news agencies of the peoples' fronts.

The letter to Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general was sent directly to the headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

Front Leaders Faulted for Portrayal of Situation

PM0209183189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent M. Ziyeminsh under the rubric "Interethnic Relations: We Monitor Events" and the general heading "Lessons of Truth and Responsibility": "Latvia: Why Did the 'Baltic Council' Meet?"]

[Text] Riga, 2 Sep—The leaders of the Latvian and Estonian People's Fronts and the Lithuanian "Sajudis" movement met in Riga. At Latvian People's Front headquarters they held a so-called "Baltic Council." Its organizers made no secret of the fact that their objective was to express their attitude to the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics.

So how did they do this? First, they disagreed with the assessments made in the statement. And second, in the opinion of the "fronts'" leadership, the reality is as follows: There is no political crisis and no violent clashes in the republics, it is simply that "certain forces" wish to stifle democracy in the Baltic region. A fairly original interpretation of the CPSU Central Committee document.

Of course everyone is entitled to express his opinion in the period of open discussion of all aspects of our life. But it is also clear that the leaders of the Latvian People's Front, the Estonian People's Front, and "Sajudis" are making every effort to present a simplistic picture of the situation and conceal from the public at large the negative processes which they themselves often fuel. Increasing numbers of people in the Baltic region are becoming convinced that many recent statements by the Latvian People's Front, the Estonian People's Front, and "Sajudis" are antidemocratic by nature and do not facilitate the normalization of the situation in the Baltic republics.

Baltic Leaders Express Views on CPSU Statement

LD0109150189 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—By TASS writer Petr Lidin:

Life in the Soviet Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in the past week was normal, if somewhat unusual. Fortunately, none of the republics was gripped by strikes which always bring about social tensions and economic losses, no matter what their motives.

Cargo-handling operations at Novo-Tallinn port went on as scheduled. Lithuanian was completing the harvesting of grain, and the crop is excellent—not less than 33 metric centners [1 centner equals 220.46 pounds] per hectare.

Famed Latvian minibuses were rolling off the conveyers of the Riga plant.

The holiday season was drawing to an end, cultural life was at full swing and a new academic year has started.

But these developments did not attract much attention in the country, nor did they rivet world public attention.

The highlight of the past week was the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement of August 25 on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics, which expressed justified concern over some aspects in developments in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Naturally, this statement was in the focus of attention of the three republics' political and public forces. Reaction to it was different, sometimes very much so: from complete support to total rejection.

The leaders of the Lithuanian public organisation Sajudis, for instance, described the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement as an attempt to "put administrative pressure" on the Baltic republics.

The Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party holds a different view: "We understand the concern and anxiety of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee generated by unconsidered declarations and actions in conditions of the complicated political situation by some individuals active in public movements."

The Lithuanian Communist Party stated that Mikhail Gorbachev's policy was helping the republic to restore genuine spiritual values.

A group of people's deputies, representing Estonia in the new Soviet legislature, released in Tallinn a "reply" to the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement assessing it as an encroachment on Estonian sovereignty and even on perestroyka in general.

The Buro of the Estonian Communist Party's Central Committee in a statement circulated in the republic at the same time points to the "understanding" of the concern expressed by the Soviet Communist Party.

The Estonian Communist Party Buro believes that responsible and constructive forces in the republic "proceed from the premise that the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is a sovereign republic in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the question of potentialities of its further development is above all the issue of the further democratisation of this union and the radical restructuring of the Soviet Federation."

An address by the Estonian Communist Party, broadcast on radio and television, said that "demands for secession from USSR are irresponsible in the present-day conditions and can only damage the interests of the Estonian people."

The Buro of the Latvian Communist Party's Central Committee also expressed its attitude to the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement on the situation in the Baltic republics.

It described the statement as a document of immense political importance for the republic, saying that "its conclusions should become a subject of thorough study and a basis for concrete actions to normalise the social and political situation in the republic."

News reports coming here from the three republics in the north-west of the USSR show that different, at times opposite, views on the situation in the republics and on the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement are expressed not only by representative bodies and organisations in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, but also by individuals.

Indeed, there is no unity on major issues concerning the future development of the Soviet Baltic republics. This is no problem, however. On the contrary, this is quite natural.

What is extremely important, even absolutely necessary, in these conditions is to have goodwill in society to resolve all outstanding issues by using ways and means that would suit all.

This is precisely what the party statement calls for. It calls for a sensible and sober dialogue, considered and balanced actions directed at further democratisation and consolidation of republic sovereignty, at the deepening of political and economic self-management.

The plenum of the Latvian Communist Party's Central Committee continued its work in Riga this week. The first sittings were held three weeks ago, but were then suspended to enable a special commission to summarise proposals and formulate an integral, united programme of action on the Latvian Communists.

The ideas voiced in the first part of the plenary meeting were placed at the foundation of the programme document, "along the path of Latvian sovereignty", which was submitted to the plenum and is now being discussed by members of the republican Communist Party Central Committee.

Dailies React to Statement

LD0109142989 Moscow TASS in English 1151 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—The Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's statement on developments in the Baltic republics has prompted differing responses in Estonia, with everybody agreeing only that it should be seen as a plea for realising how serious the situation is, the Army daily KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says today.

In the opinion of M. Lysenko, chairman of the Republican Strike Committee, the situation in Estonia is critical and is continuing to be exacerbated by forces that have left workers no other option than to strike.

Stoppages have been suspended, but the talks are leading nowhere and fundamental issues concerning the basic civil rights of the Russian-speaking part of the population remain outstanding.

The newspaper also quotes M. Taarmak, a spokesman for the Estonian Popular Front, as saying: "The (Central Committee) statement was inspired by forces opposed to the idea of republican cost-accounting. This is the important thing, and not the residence qualifications in the election law."

Taarmak agreed, however, that ideas advocated by political extremists do not contribute to mutual understanding and compromise. He added at the same time that neither side has yet made practical steps towards compromise.

Detailing the response to the Central Committee statement in Latvia, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reports a mixed reaction in Liepaja as well as elsewhere in the republic.

Those seriously concerned about the future of the Baltic republics and prepared to take real steps to relax tension readily share the disquiet expressed by the statement. But there are also quite a few functionaries cultivated by separatist and extremist slogans who have managed to use even this document to stage provocations and foment interethnic strife, the paper says.

It quotes V. Konopukhin, a fitter from the Liepaja railway carriage depot, as saying that there are practically no people outside politics, now in the Baltic region. The Latvian Popular Front, especially its extremist forces, has adeptly taken advantage of the situation, masterfully capitalising on economic difficulties and stubbornly ascribing them just to "dictates from the centre", "occupation troops" and "migrants", he said.

PRAVDA reports from Vilnius that plants in Lithuania are working normally.

The correspondent says that the statement on the situation in the Baltic region and the recent plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee are uppermost on everyone's mind.

He cites Lithuanian V. Semeta, an office worker and a party member, as supporting the criticism of extremism by the statement and the plenum.

"The 'Freedom League' and other 'informal groups', which have wormed their way into Sajudis, have taken advantage of democracy and glasnost to further evil goals. People have only just begun to really believe they can manage their economic affairs on their own and now these secessionist nationalist slogans have appeared. They are a blow to perestroika," Semeta said.

Republics Talks To Be Held 'Later This Month'

LD0209040689 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The people in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia are continuing to comment on the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee statement on the situation in the Baltic republics. The party called on the people of various nationalities to unite and sharply censured the nationalist and separatist sentiments that have spread lately. Central television has reported that the statement has evoked polar assessments in Estonia. Many people welcomed the statement, but a group of Estonian lawmakers in the country's legislature has flatly disagreed with some conclusions and points of the document. [passage omitted]

The attitude towards the statement is far from unanimous. While the Communist Party of the [Lithuanian] republic has been boosting the ideas of the document, a group of Lithuanian legislators have protested against the tone of the document. Besides, they believe that the statement contains a lot of biased information. There have been heated debates on the Lithuanian citizenship bills and the independent status of that republic's Communist Party. In the meantime, there was a rally in Moscow on Thursday [31 August] in protest against discrimination in regard to the non-indigenous population in the Baltic republics. The Moscow party organization has addressed a message to all citizens of the country. The address is carried in the newspaper MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA. [passage omitted]

In an interview with our reporter Maksim Tkachenko, a senior Communist Party official has said that the possibility of the Baltic republics' withdrawal from the USSR has not been considered in earnest by anyone. (Anatoliy Sozonov), an adviser on ethnic relations at the party Central Committee, explained that such a step would lead them to deadlock.

[Begin (Sozonov) recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] Without enough material resources, energy, and raw materials and being closely attached to the unified Soviet economy, it is absolutely unreasonable for the Baltic republics to talk about total political and economic independence. Their secession from the USSR seems unreal, and not only because Moscow does not want this or this idea irritates it. Our and Western assessments coincide on the point that in the event of secession the Baltic republics will become backward independent nations. [end recording]

(Anatoliy Sozonov) at the same time remarked that despite widespread allegations, separatist feelings are not dominant among the Balts. The majority of the population favors broader political and economic independence of the republics within the Soviet federation. (Anatoliy Sozonov) disclosed that the party Central Committee is to meet for a special session later this month to discuss ways of giving the republics more independence as soon as possible.

Latvian Reactions to CPSU Statement 'Mixed'

PM0109181689 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by Captain 3d Rank B. Verbitskiy in Liyepaya and correspondent Lieutenant Colonel M. Ziyeminsh in Riga under the rubric "Interethnic Relations: We Monitor Events" and the general heading "Seeking Paths to Mutual Understanding": "Latvia: Will We Listen to Each Other?"]

[Text] Liyepaya—In Liyepaya, and indeed throughout Latvia, people are assessing the CPSU Central Committee statement in various ways. Those who are seriously concerned about the future of the Baltic republics, who are prepared to take real steps to eliminate tension, have aligned themselves with hearts and minds to the statement's words of alarm. But unfortunately there are a good many functionaries brought up on separatist and extremist slogans who contrived to use even this document for provocations and the intensification of interethnic discord.

Here is the view of a worker—V. Konopukhin, a lathe operator at the Liyepaya freightcar depot:

"I was born and raised in Latvia, in Liyepaya. I have spent nearly 40 years here, and I always sincerely thought that politics did not interest me. But now there is virtually no one left in the Baltic region who is distanced from politics. It has come very close to everyone, because a speedy politicization of ordinary human relations is taking place. In my view this is a very complex phenomenon, because conflicts in everyday life are the quickest to flare up. Unfortunately the Latvian People's Front, and especially its extremist forces, are skillfully taking advantage of the situation and speculating cleverly on the economic difficulties."

Dozens of similar remarks and assessments could be cited. But I repeat, the statement has not only promoted that reaction.

Furthermore the opinions of party organs are diametrically opposed to one another. The mass media have already reported this. I wish to dwell solely on a statement by the Liyepaya Latvian Communist Party City Committee. It says that the CPSU Central Committee is "disorienting the inhabitants of the whole country." Clearly, the city authorities would dearly like to close their own eyes and those of the public to what is happening in the city. Yet here, in recent months alone, monuments to the Soviet servicemen who defended Liyepaya have been desecrated, in particular the monument to Major General N. Dedayev. And 2 weeks ago, by night, an artillery shell was exploded in the yard of the military hotel "Baltika."

Facts must be looked in the face. Listen to each other, engage in dialogue—that is the only way to stabilize the situation.

Riga—I visited several Riga enterprises. The reaction to the CPSU Central Committee statement here is mixed. But all the same, the majority of responses are approving. In the city's Leninskiy Rayon, where 116 enterprises and organizations are located, I was told that only 2 labor collectives do not accept the assessments made in the statement. In all the others, on the contrary, they say the document was rather late. The same was said at a rally of working people organized by the International Front.

The People's Front activists and supporters have a different attitude. On 30 August they delivered several weighty packages of paper to the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee building. It turned out that signatures had been collected for a protest. Today representatives of the so-called Baltic Association gathered to formulate a platform of action in response to the "document from Moscow." The initiators of this action are trying to persuade the public to condemn the statement "as unobjective and tendentious."

Riga's Rubiks, Sarkan Comment

LD0109144989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The statement by the CPSU Central Committee on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics region continues to remain at the focus of attention of the population of Latvia. The complex and contradictory situation in the republics was also discussed by the participants in a plenum of the Central Committee of the republic's Communist Party.

In an interview for a TASS correspondent, USSR People's Deputy Rubiks, chairman of the Riga City Executive Committee, said: I am convinced that we have the desire not to see some things, and not to attach fundamental significance to a number of processes. One can't proceed like that. What we don't see and notice and do today, over a year, or 3 or 5 years—to satisfy short-term considerations of various kinds—will be paid for very dearly. We all know that the Communist Party, or any parties expressing the interests of the working people, hold very dear their traditions, defend them, and fight to ensure that the ideology which they expound prevails.

Under the stamp of the pluralism of views we have rejected the concept of socialist pluralism, setting all kinds of ideologies in motion. If we want restructuring to be conducted on the positions of the CPSU, and to produce those positive results which we are promising the people, then we have to be aware that neither the Popular Front of Latvia, nor the emerging Social Democratic Party which has newly come to light, nor especially a party of the likes of the Helsinki-86, are capable of providing what the people are waiting for.

I think, Comrade Rubiks continued, that the statement of the CPSU Central Committee gave a correct appraisal. But it came 6 months too late. And, in general, we do not need such instructions from above. But on the one hand we ourselves don't like instructions from above, and on the other—we expect them. As a member of the Central Committee I will say that I do not recall such an irresponsible attitude toward the speeches by members of the Central Committee at our plenums and bureaus as has existed in recent times, even over all the years of stagnation. There is no kind of reply to the suggestions. Is this really how the party leadership works? Is this really how healthy public opinion is formed? The day will come when we will all have to answer for where we led the people, and why we did not see those negative phenomena being pointed out to us today.

It is naive to presume that political and economic difficulties will not arise in the restructuring process, Sarkan, first secretary of the Talsi Rayon Committee of the Latvian Communist Party, said. They exist and will continue to exist. We are all learning to work in a new situation. The apparatus of the Central Committee, city committees, and rayon committees exists. It is bound to master the situation, to work with people, and if necessary to instill order. I will say honestly that we have received a great many protests in response to the statement. The problem is that in the preparation of such a responsible document everything is mixed together. Yes, 51 enterprises in Estonia were on strike for nearly a month. But in our country, the situation is completely different. There is no kind of extreme situation. People are living and working calmly.

But such statements give an excuse to exacerbate the situation, Comrade Sarkan feels. Of course, problems exist. But there are people to deal with them on the spot. It is incomprehensible why such important documents are taken without the knowledge of the republican Communist Party. If we have decided to work openly, democratically, and honestly, then these principles should also be observed by the higher echelon party leaders. Such complaints are made by the communists of the majority of primary party organisations of our rayon.

Latvian Party Central Committee Plenum Ends

Appeal Hits CPSU Baltics Statement

PM0109145589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Own correspondent I Litvinova report: "Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Appeal"]

[Text] Riga—The participants in the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, which has ended in Riga, have adopted an appeal to Communists and all the republic's working people in connection with the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Position in the Soviet Baltic Republics.

The appeal points out that the statement provoked a broad, mixed response in the republic. Analyzing the complex and contradictory sociopolitical situation, party organizations and labor collectives share the CPSU Central Committee's concern and alarm over the development of perestroyka processes in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. At the same time the appeal indicates that, when discussing the CPSU Central Committee Statement, many labor collectives and party organizations voiced disagreement with general assessments that fail to take into consideration the originality in the development of the situation in every republic, notably Latvia.

The document says that broad strata of the population have joined in the process of political renewal in the republic, political pluralism and glasnost have developed in a turbulent manner, while people's national consciousness is reviving rapidly. The fundamental destruction of the old, along with the creation of new, social structures is inevitably accompanied by a certain destabilization in the economic and social situation. "But the

Latvian Communist Party Central Committee is convinced that the activeness on the part of extremist groupings attempting in effect to bar the way to perestroyka from various directions is not having and cannot have a crucial effect on the process of renewal in the republic."

The appeal outlines an action program for Communists to implement the Latvian Communist Party action program adopted at the plenum.

Program on Ethnic Issues Cited

PM0209162989 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 3 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by special correspondents V. Proskura and S. Volkov under the rubric "Nationalities Question: Events, Opinions": "From Slogans to Action"]

[Excerpts] Riga—The recess between the first and final sessions of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum lasted almost 3 weeks. Its participants formulated the agenda—which covered 23 days' work by an enlarged plenum—in line with the title of the draft program put to the public by the Central Committee Bureau—"What is the Latvian Communist Party Striving for?"

The CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics had a great influence on the plenum participants. It sparked in the Communists a sense of political responsibility and internationalist duty. It must be said that initially there were disparate reactions to the statement in the republic, particularly on the part of certain Latvian Communist Party Central Committee members.

Some USSR people's deputies and Latvian Supreme Soviet deputies participated in an emergency conference called by the People's Front. The resolution proclaimed that both objectivity and simple common sense were lacking. Subsequent sessions of the Central Committee Bureau and Riga City Party Committee helped the "oppositionists" to get their ideas together, soberly analyze the situation, weigh up the situation that had developed, and correspondingly revise their hasty position.

Obviously only time will tell how effective the Latvian Communist Party action program adopted by the plenum will prove to be. For now we would like to focus attention on some of its fundamental directives, although some points are still open to discussion. A final decision will be made by the next Latvian Communist Party Congress, which will be held in September next year.

According to the program document, the Latvian Communist Party must operate within the CPSU on an equal footing with the communist parties of the other union republics. In its nationalities policy the Latvian Communist Party must proceed from the fact that the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] is the only territory in the world where the free development of the Latvian people can be ensured. At the same time favorable conditions must be created and reliable guarantees ensured for the development of all the large and small ethnic groups living here, naturally without giving priority to any particular nationality, including the indigenous nationality. The program stresses the Latvian Communist Party's commitment to wage an uncompromising struggle against any organization fueling interethnic strife or people who destabilize public order, violate the laws of the socialist fatherland, or urge the overthrow of the Soviet system.

Full account is also taken of the actual present-day situation. The Latvian Communist Party recognizes that its practical work will be carried out in conditions of political pluralism with a perceptible trend toward the formation of a multiparty system in the republic. Readiness is expressed to conduct a dialogue and cooperate with movements and associations holding socialist positions and inspired by the ideals of the revolutionary perestroyka launched on the initiative of the CPSU.

Candidate Members Win Right To Vote

LD0109203589 Riga Domestic Service in Latvian 1735 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] A plenum of the Latvia Communist Party Central Committee continued its work today (?in Riga), about whose process you, esteemed listeners, [words indistinct] are informed, because evidently a majority of you were listening to the relay.

First secretaries of town and rayon party committees; chairmen of town and rayon executive committees; heads of ministries and state committees; representatives of trade unions and Komsomol organs; secretaries of those committees of the party which have the rights of rayon committees; members of the editorial commission formed for the working out of the final version of the Communist Party of Latvia program; responsible workers of the Central Committee apparatus who are not members [words indistinct] of the Central Committee; and workers of mass information media were invited to participate at the sitting.

The plenum continued its work with already previously adopted agenda.

(?as the) first point comes the public-political processes in the republic and the action program of the Communist Party of Latvia.

The second point is organizational questions.

The plenum granted the rights of a deciding vote to the Communist Party of Latvia Central Committee's candidate members, members of the auditing commission, and the first secretaries of rayon committees who are not included in the composition of the Communist Party of Latvia Central Committee.

Janis Vargis, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the action program commission, briefed the plenum on the work of the commission formed to work out the final version of the Latvian Communist Party's action program.

The text of the action program was extensively discussed. After more exact definitions and corrections were made, the action program of the Communist Party of Latvia, along the road of sovereignty of Soviet Latvia, was adopted.

Participants at the plenum expressed their opinions in connection with the 26 August CPSU Central Committee statement on the situation in the Baltic Soviet republics and adopted a resolution.

After that the plenum began to examine organizational questions.

30 Aug Plenum Proceedings Reported

LD0309103189

[Editorial Report] Riga Domestic Service in Latvian from 0815 GMT to 1540 GMT on 30 August broadcasts a live relay of the proceedings of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee in Riga monitored in progress.

Latvian Communist Party First Secretary Janis Vagris addresses the plenum in Russian. The proposal that voting rights in the plenum should be extended to candidate members of the Central Committee members of the Central Committee's auditing commission, and first secretaries of party rayon committees is put to a vote. Vagris says there are good precedents for the proposal. The voting results are announced in Latvian: 86 for, 9 against, 1 abstention. Vagris observes that there are 5 votes unaccounted for, but says the proposal is adopted.

Discussion on the Latvian Communist Party's action program begins, starting with its preamble. There are several exchanges concerning the wording, including one involving Alfred Petrovich Rubiks, chairman of the Riga city soviet executive committee. Rubiks says, "The question occurs to me, why do we want to give a new formulation to who can be a member of the Communist Party?" This was written in the rules, so why did the question arise today to express these rules all over again in a different way? "Second, if we want to change the status this has to be at the congress, not here." The party's composition depends on who can join it. Vagris replies that this is why they specified workers, peasants, and intelligentsia, but Rubiks contends that the paragraph was not necessary at all because it contradicts the rules.

Vagris argues that the rules are not contradicted. He says the commission that drew up the program only defined them more exactly, which had to be done because in the Latvian Communist Party "we have no status of our own, Comrade Rubiks. We have no status of our own" for formulating composition of the Communist Party.

After a break the plenum continues with detailed proposals and amendments to the program. An unidentified woman speaking Russian expresses her concern for the protection of minority rights. Vagris replies that there is clearly a need to develop a mechanism for protecting minority rights and suggests that the next congress examine the matter.

Anatoliy Gorbunov, chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet Presidium, then addresses the plenum on sovereignty. He speaks in Russian. "The matter at hand is the sovereignty of the Latvian Communist Party. The two options proposed are, essentially, a continuation of the debate of sovereignty. A declaration was adopted at the Supreme Soviet session, and we defined what the sovereignty of our republic means. First and foremost, we looked at legal sovereignty—through legal mechanisms and through the adoption of laws by the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet. Here, of course, we acknowledged that this sovereignty, in such legal form, contradicts article 74 of the USSR Constitution. As soon as we raise this issue, however, another one arises, i.e. that in essence at least three other articles of the USSR Constitution contradict article 74, which says that union laws take precedence over republican laws. One can thus draw a conclusion or else ask the question: How do we go on from here?

"In the first place, there are contradictions; in the second place, those same subsequent articles say that the USSR guarantees the sovereignty of each republic. Looking now at practice and repeated statements by Mikhail Sergeyevich and other state figures indicates that the notion of republics' sovereignty should be filled with concrete content. Therefore, I would like to conduct this discussion along a diagonal, say, or to compare the discussions on the sovereignty of the Latvian Communist Party.

"Two options have been proposed here: the first option and the second option. I would like to say first that, of course, there cannot be complete sovereignty, just as there cannot be complete independence. We have defined our position on the legal front like this: we submit a proportion of our rights to federal jurisdiction, so to speak, we ratify these federal laws and recognize their primacy. If we take a look here, I feel that we get the same thing. In the first option, the Latvian Communist Party should have an independent status within the CPSU, its own program of action within the bounds of the CPSU program, and wide autonomy in tackling the following issues: the right to adopt independent and final decisions affecting the most important problems of economic, ecological, social, cultural, and nationality policy, taking account of the historical peculiarities that have developed in the republic.

Gorbunov continues, "In my opinion, this actually observes the principle that we submit a proportion of our rights, while defining our program of action within the bounds of the CPSU program; and at the same time, we are saying that we have the right to adopt independent and final decisions. As for the second option, that second option does not grant us such rights, unfortunately. Here, at both the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Congress of People's Deputies there was something of the ethnic issue, which I would not like to disclose fully, but I will just remind you of the actual facts. For example, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Congress of People's Deputies represents, for the most part, the Russian Federation.

"If I may carry on—and I feel today that national colorings and national elements do, all the same, have an essential influence on the adoption of decisions in the Supreme Soviet, and you probably felt that when you were at the session in Moscow—then it must be said that at both the Supreme Soviet and the Congress of People's Deputies the majority are Russian comrades. Therefore, I feel that to say that the second option guarantees participation on an authoritative basis in the work of the supreme bodies of the CPSU, well, I feel that a few questions also arise here from the ethnic point of view."

The chairman of the preceedings asks for Gorbunov's specific proposal Gorbunov replies, "The first option." The chairman says:

"The first option. Well, the two options were presented in the commission. We discussed them for a long time and decided, well we did not reach a common opinion in the commission, so we submitted this for a decision by the plenum. The view was even expressed in the commission that the discussion on these options should be conducted right up to the congress, the next congress of the Latvian Communist Party. Well, I am telling you how this was adopted."

Ideology secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Kezbers contributes to a discussion of the principles of federation. He speaks in Latvian. He points out that there are not two communist parties, which there would have to be to understand a party task in a federative sense. He says the party should have an independent status, different from an oblast committee's status.

"This is what we must say today in principle in this draft. If this is so, then, in my understanding, in the version of autonomy the question of the status of the Latvian Communist Party can also be discussed until the 25th regular party congress.

Vagris asks him what his proposal is. He says,

"This is only a proposal, but I propose not to exclude in the first version—moreover, in the action program of the Latvian Communist Party—the status of the Communist Party of Latvia. Such is my proposal."

Latvia's Gorbunov Discusses Upcoming Elections

LD0409205389 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Interview with A.S. Gorbunov, chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, by Correspondent Ninel Kasyanova; in Latvia, date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Kasyanova] The interest of the public movements in the republic is now focused on the forthcoming elections to the local soviets and the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR]. This is understandable, for this is a matter of the formation of the bodies of power in the republic. Here, too, positions are sharply different. There are two main platforms for the forthcoming elections in the republic, both direct ones and multistage ones. What is your opinion about this?

[Gorbunov—identified by screen caption] Yes, indeed, there do exist such opinions, and they differ in their essentials here in the republic. Some people think that we should have two-stage ones, that is to say, first of all elect a congress of people's deputies, and then a Supreme Soviet from among the people's deputies. Others consider we should have direct elections, that is to say elect the Supreme Soviet of the republic as a result of direct elections.

However, I must say, I myself, personally, and perhaps I could be so bold as to say judging by the mail to the Supreme Soviet Presidium, that the majority of the republic does favor the opinion that the basic democratic principle of the elections should be observed, that is to say, that the elections should be held on the basis of a general direct electoral law, that it should be held on the basis of a general direct electoral law, that it should be implemented. Well, of course, so that there should be equal elections. In this connection, even now it is clear that this principle presupposes the abandonment of elections in public organizations, and also presupposes the abandonment of elections of a congress of people's deputies.

However, I would like to stress that the opinions as to whether there should be a congress and a Supreme Soviet or only a directly elected Supreme Soviet are not as divergent (?on the principle of public organizations). Opinions probably are more divergent in the desire, the natural desire, of everyone that the supreme body of power in the republic, on the one hand, be able to implement the sovereignty of the people [narodlastiye] and on the other hand, be truly professional.

[Kasyanova] Well, (?that is) marvelous. At the last Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum, a recommendation was expressed in the program that was adopted that the Supreme Soviet of the republic should work out a draft law that would guarantee the rights of the national minorities in Latvia. Has the period for working out such a draft been determined? Probably it, too, will be handed over for general, nationwide discussion?

[Gorbunov] Yes, we have given this draft law the working title: On the nationalities in the Latvian SSR. And I must say that we do have a basis for adopting such a law already, for as you recall, a forum of peoples of Latvia was held here, and national cultural societies are active here. They have even come together in an association and have already worked out their own draft and submitted it to the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

[Kasyanova] This year, even schools have started. National schools have opened for the first time. Right?

[Gorbunov] Yes, and where they haven't opened, there will be Saturday and Sunday schools, and of course, the discussion that is being conducted on questions between the nationalities in our republic is also an experiment and a basis for the adoption of such a law. We start out from the standpoint that it should not simply be a declaration of the rights of the national minorities in our republic, that rights should not simply be proclaimed here, so to say, but that there also should be a mechanism for the implementation of these rights.

Estonian Party Plenum To Assess CPSU Statement

PM0109170189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by special correspondent Lieutenant Colonel S. Pashayev under the rubric "Interethnic Relations: We Monitor Events" and the general heading "Seeking Paths to Mutual Understanding": "Estonia: Comment Galore..."]

[Excerpts] Comments on the CPSU Central Committee statement are not in short supply in Estonia at the moment. There is only one thing they agree on: This document must be regarded as an insistent appeal to realize the utter seriousness of the situation. [passage omitted]

The normalization of the situation is not being promoted by a message from a number of USSR people's deputies from Estonia which states, for example, that their voters have interpreted the CPSU Central Committee statement as readiness by the center to use the Army "to impose order." No wonder that the deputies' message was assessed by the "Dvigatel" plant collective at a rally as ignoring the appeals to find answers to the pressing questions in a calm atmosphere, without emotions.

So what is the way out? Many are awaiting the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum with hope. A report on a meeting between the first secretaries of city and rayon party committees and members of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has been published. This was the meeting that approved the decision to convene an Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum 1 September. The plenum will make an assessment of the situation which has developed.

Plenum Notes Instability, Tension

LD0109184789 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Tallinn September 1 TASS—The tasks of stabilising the political situation in the republic faced by the Estonian Communist Party in Tallinn today.

The report, made by Vayno Vyalyas, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party, notes that the social and political situation in the republic is now characterized by certain instability and tension. The CPSU Central Committee statement on the situation in the Baltic republics expresses justified concern over the events in this region. The Estonian Communist Party bears full responsibility for the situation and regards the development of perestroika processes, cooperation with all progressive forces in society as a way leading out of the crisis situation. The report analyses the mass movements and organisations in the republic—the Popular Front, the United Council of Worker's Collectives, the Agrarian Union, the Society for the Protection of Historical Monuments, the Party of Estonian National Independence, Interdvizheniye (Intermovement) and strike committees—and calls for dialogue as a way of attaining mutual understanding.

The resolution of the plenum stresses the need to prevent a further rise of tension, destabilisation of the situation and confrontation, to pursue well-considered policy taking into account various opinions and the real situation. It also urges to rebuff manifestations of national extremism and chauvinism, attempts to dictate one's will with the help of ultimatums, strikes and open threats.

The course of the Estonian Communist Party, the resolution stresses, remains unchanged: for a sovereign Estonia in the renewed Soviet federation, for the new status of the Estonian Communist Party as an inalienable part of the CPSU, for extending perestroika and further democratisation of society.

The plenary meeting of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee proposed to the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet to speed up the elaboration of the package of legislative acts aimed at creating a social and political basis for the further development of perestroika processes in the republic in the interests of all people living in Estonia, irrespective of their nationality.

Conservatives Dropped in Party Reshuffle

AU0209135789 Paris AFP in English 1043 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, Sept 2 (AFP)—The Estonian Communist Party has replaced several of its veteran leaders, all of them conservatives, a local journalist told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Saturday.

Meanwhile party first secretary Vayno Vyalyas, addressing the central committee plenum that carried out the reshuffle Friday, reaffirmed the Estonian party still wanted sovereignty for Estonia despite Moscow's harsh warning to all three Baltic republics last week to tone down their drive for independence.

Newspapers on Saturday named two of the outgoing officials as Artur-Bernkhard Upsi and Matti Pedak. For many years Mr. Upsi had been secretary for agriculture and Mr. Pedak in charge of unions.

Hary Tiido [name as received], an Estonian journalist close to the nationalist Estonian Popular Front, said four officials had been ousted, "all from more or less strongly conservative tendencies".

Six new Politburo members were appointed, including Arderd Vaali [name as received], a local party leader and specialist in agriculture who is to take over Mr. Upsi's job.

Another man elevated to the Politburo, Jaak Allik [name as received], is "very progressive" and "could be put in charge of the unions", the journalist said.

Party first secretary Vyalyas' speech was broadcast live on Estonian radio Friday and published Saturday in the press.

Mr. Tiido described it as "very measured", while stressing "that no Estonian movement caused disorders or led strikes, unlike the Russophone movements of Estonia".

Mr. Vyalyas reaffirmed that the Estonian party's support for Estonian sovereignty remained unchanged.

But he conceded that last week's warning from the Soviet Communist Party "justly expressed worry over the tension and destablisation prevalent in Estonia".

Plenum Views Stablization Tasks

PM0109203189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 1

[Report by special correspondents V. Poshatayev, I. Teterin; under the rubric "We Discuss the Nationalities Question": "To the Defense of Perestroyka"]

[Text] An Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum which discussed the Estonian Communist Party's tasks in stabilizing the situation in the republic was held in Tallinn 1 September.

The report by V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, was insistent that in the present atmosphere of confrontation between different political forces the Communist Party must find opportunities to unite in order to defend and consolidate the course of perestroyka. For the most diverse extremes—from right and left alike—are being displayed in the republic today. They are united by a common feature—a denial of the authority of the existing organs of power and sometimes a direct boycott of administrative structures. And therefore the Estonian Communist Party's role as an integrating element must match the demands of the time and the real tasks of the reforms that are being carried out.

Most of the plenum participants' speeches were self-critical. This is especially gratifying since many political groups and social movements in the republic are attempting in the present situation to monopolize the right to truth. Thus, the recent CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics evoked a reaction of nonacceptance from a large group of USSR people's deputies from Estonia, creative unions, and other social organizations. They attempted to see some kind of threat in the party statement. Even interference in the affairs of a sovereign Soviet republic. In any event, numerous resolutions published in the newspapers are mainly concerned about the form of the CPSU Central Committee statement, not the substance. No hint of self-criticism here, as they say.

Counterbalancing approaches of that kind, the plenum participants made a detailed analysis of the events of recent months and an objective assessment of the political situation in Estonia. Their main conclusion is that the unification of party forces is not only necessary but possible. The jointly elaborated Estonian Communist Party action program will help here. The attention of many speeches was centered on the draft of this program.

Today, as a continuation of the discussion held in Tallinn yesterday, there will be a republic conference of primary party organization secretaries. The Communists, who have a sincere interest in the speediest stabilization of the situation in the republic, are continuing their discussions.

Estonian Supreme Soviet To Convene 5 Oct

LD0409215289 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[From the "Echo of the Day" program]

[Excerpt] We will continue from Kadriorg, where today a session of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium took place. It was chaired by Arnold Ryuytel, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Questions connected with the next session of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet were discussed and a decree was adopted that the Supreme Soviet will be convened on 5 October. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Toome on Environmental Protection

LD0409214689 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 1200 GMT 4 Sep 89

[From the "Echo of the Day" program]

[Excerpt] In Tallinn, at Toompea and Kardiorg, important Estonian matters were decided today. Over to Juri Hansen.

[Hansen] The session of the republican government today looked again at oil-shale mining and development of power generating, the protection of the domestic market, and also in that connection at the protection of the population's interests, the arrangement of the republican transportation, changeover to self-management, and some other matters.

What was unusual was that representatives from military units stationed in the republic were invited to account for the implementation of nature conservation measures on the territory at their disposal. The officers must have thought that this was but a case of a formality, and the expected (?vehemence), as well as depth were lacking from their speeches. Just in case, their reports carried the notice: not for the press [ne dlya pechati]. This time, however, the [word indistinct] hint did not have the expected effect. Prime Minister Indrek Toome had something to say about bringing an end to the artificial making of secrets out of the Army's activity. During the interval of the session, he had the following, additionally, to say on this subject:

[Begin Toome recording] Today, as we were discussing there how military units have been fulfilling the responsibility placed upon them with respect to environmental protection, it turned out that the situation is unsatisfactory. For this reason, a resolution was adopted to act in future along two lines: The strategic line, which means that our legislature, the Supreme Soviet and our government, will have to approach the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Government with proposals to review—if one can say this—the union's military doctrine with respect to the location of military units on the territories of union republics and oblasts because according to our estimations, our republic has been overpopulated with respect to military units. Let us take some of our airports, say, as an example. These are located near large towns: Tartu, Parnu, Haapslu. Their location in those places is more than questionable. Let us only think: Should a large transport plane or a long-range bomber fall on a large town, how many victims there would be? How much destruction?

On another level, of course, in the towns and rayons where military units are located, we ourselves, in the republic, will have to take under very strict control how their environmental protection plans are being fulfilled. Everything that is not directly connected with specific issues of defensive armament—which, perhaps, calls for being made secret—must be known to the people, especially where the use and environmental protection of this territory are concerned. As for my second important piece of news, I would like to say that no one need worry any longer about the possible construction of the Kuremae mine. The Kuremae mine will not happen. [end recording]

Vilnius Rally Protests CPSU Baltics Statement

PM0309192889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 89 Second Edition p 8

[Report by special correspondents Yu. Makhrin and N. Morozov: "Rally in Vilnius"]

[Text] Vilnius—Leaden clouds had been hanging low over Vilnius for several days. Then on Saturday they started to disperse slightly, and the sun's rays showed up particularly vividly the posters and slogans on Gediminas Square.

Here are some of them: "Stop communism in Lithuania!" That was in English. The word "communism," of course, is in red, with each of its letters dripping blood, skillfully drawn by the artist. Alongside, slogans "scream": "Eliminate the occupation of the Baltic region!"; "Gorbachev, pull the red troops out of Lithuania!" A little further away, a box has been set up with an inscription reading "Lithuanians, have you returned your occupation army military card?" (It is said that over 500 people have returned them. Admittedly some people apparently did it in the heat of the moment, because they are now asking for the document back.)

Whose are these slogans? One of the custodians of the "visual propaganda" replies:

"Mainly, the Lithuanian Freedom League's."

At nearly every step there is someone selling the weekly DS ("FREE SPEECH").

We continue—to Kalnu Park, where earlier there used to be song festivals, but now there is the hum of rallies. In Moscow 2 days ago, the PRAVDA editorial office received a call from staffers of the "Sajudis" news agency who asked for correspondents to be sent specially to the present international rally. And that is our mission: to report this meeting.

...The stands and floor of the field are filled with thousands of people. A great many flags, nearly all of which we are seeing for the first time in our lives. Without the red flame. Our interpreter, "commissioned" by "Sajudis," explains:

"That is the 'independent' Ukrainian flag, and those are the national flags of Belorussia, Latvia, Estonia. That one, the green one with the crescent moon, is the Tatar flag, that one with the six-pointed star is the Israeli flag, and that tricolor is Russia's."

Only later, after the speech by the Leningrad People's Front representative, with her proud rhetoric, did we understand that it was she who had come under the flag of autocratic Russia.

Representatives of many nationalities came to the microphone, which carried the speakers' voices all over Kalnu Park. A common idea rang out: You cannot artificailly destroy the atmosphere of concord and respect between people speaking different languages that has prevailed in the republic for centuries. A. Gaydandzhi, an inhabitant of the city of Snechkus, cited an instance when, on the "Baltic Way" action day, malicious tongues spread a rumor that Lithuanians had stoned a bus carrying Russians who had intended to take part in the action. "That is an utter lie!" he said. "The Lithuanians greeted that busload of Russians with warm applause!"

"We cannot be divided now, because we have many common problems that we must tackle together," R. Dayauskeyte said. "Take ecology. That is real genocide! Everything around us is poisoned, children are born sick. And there are so many social problems.... Yet some people, in this difficult time, are forcefully foisting the nationalities question on us and distracting us from real life. We must work, and not yield to provocations!"

A similar idea was expressed by V. Yasukaytite, chairman of the Lithuanian Women's Council, in her speech: "We must seek in one another not what divides us, but what unites us." Although, of course, it is hard to agree with the speaker that Soviet people are similar in such qualities as spiritual aridity and lack of faith in communist ideals and in the party's leading organs. Or with this appeal: "In order not to fall into the mechanism of national discord that is controlled from Moscow we must unite."

The overwhelming majority of those who spoke at the rally considered that the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic republics does not reflect objectively the manifestations of national self-awareness of their peoples or the movement for real sovereignty. Thus, "Sajudis" leader Professor V. Landsbergis criticized the CPSU Central Committee because the document was elaborated not by an elected party organ but by the apparatus, anonymously, "behind the three republics' backs." He asserted, in particular, that the Central Committee statement lumps all the national movements in the Baltic republics together as extremist and nationalist and elevates individual petty facts to the rank of global ethnic problems. V. Landsbergis read out an appeal to the United Nations and the peoples of the Soviet Union from the leaders of the Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian people's fronts.

Let us say outright that many speakers let their emotions get out of control. Some expressions were breathtaking in their viciousness, not to put it more strongly. Here are just a few of the sentences recorded in our notebooks: "Please keep your big nose out of our problems"; "We will defend Lithuania against the enemy who has taken up residence in the center!"; "Like a tank, the USSR levels everybody.... We say no to an enormous collective farm!"

There was considerable criticism of PRAVDA. The newspaper was accused of tendentious coverage of the "Baltic Way" August protest and of factual inaccuracies. Without trying to defend the honor of the regiment, let us say that the absolute majority of the accusations were far from being balanced and objective.

The rally participants adopted two resolutions. One of them made an assessment of the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics. It is assessed as evidence of the infringement of the national dignity of Lithuania's peoples and as a "throwback to Stalinism and the stagnation period." The other resolution states, in part: "The CPSU Central Committee statement, items in the central press, primarily the newspapers PRAVDA and KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, and central television are give a tendentious picture of the events taking place in Lithuania, since they are based on untrue and often provocative information from supporters of pseudodemocracy and colonial status for occupied countries...."

On Sunday the same Song Festival Grounds was the venue for a rally organized by the committee for the salvation of Soviet power in Lithuania.

Brazauskas Condemns 'Ill-Considered Aspirations'

PM0109144189 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 Sep 89 p 2

[Own correspondent N. Lashkevich Vilnius report and LATINFORM-TASS Riga report under the rubric "News From the Republics" and the general heading "Rocky Road to Agreement"]

[Text] Vilnius, 1 Sep—The CPSU Central Committee statement "On the Position in the Soviet Baltic Republics" continues to be at the forefront of the republic's sociopolitical life.

A. Brazauskas, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, recently visited industrial enterprises and collective farms in a number of the republic's rayons and met with working people. At a meeting in Mazheykskiy Rayon he stressed in his speech that certain radical figures in public movements with no regard for the real opportunities of the present day have started making extreme demands, up to and including secession from the Soviet Union and the withdrawal of the Soviet Army from Lithuanian territory. These are ill-considered aspirations, A. Brazauskas noted, which could lead the republic into an impasse.

What has been the reaction of other social organizations and informal associations and movements to the statement? To be blunt, the reaction has, with rare exceptions, been negative. As a rule, understanding is expressed for the CPSU Central Committee's concern about certain extremist manifestations, and the hastiness of certain political forces' actions and declarations is admitted. However, on the whole, a critical attitude to the statement prevails for the time being. It is seen merely as an "imperious" gesture which allegedly conceals diktat from a center that refuses to give a people the right to express its own will. Speaking on television, "Sajudis" leader V. Landsbergis called the statement an unjust act aimed at scaring the Lithuanian people and "showing them a massive fist." He also noted in his speech the desire for dialogue expressed in the statement, and he called on the republic's residents to display dignity and cohesion.

The republic Lenin Communist Youth League Central Committee Bureau has also expressed its attitude to the CPSU Central Committee document. Its statement maintains that the CPSU Central Committee Statement "destabilizes the situation, exacerbates relations between the residents of Lithuania representing various nationalities, and is helping to shape a negative view of the Baltic republics in the country and the world." The Lithuanian Women's League has also made a critical assessment of the content of the statement. A large group of USSR people's deputies from Lithuania have issued their own statement demanding that the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium urgently publish the conclusions of the Commission of USSR People's Deputies investigating the German-Soviet pacts of 1939 and their consequences.

Riga, 1 Sep—The CPSU Central Committee Statement and the complex and contradictory situation in the republic have been discussed by the participants in a Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum.

"I am convinced," A.P. Rubiks, USSR people's deputy and chairman of Riga City Soviet Executive Committee, said, "that we have a desire not to see some things and not to attach principled importance to a number of processes. This is wrong. Under the banner of pluralism of opinions we have rejected the concept of socialist pluralism and are giving all kinds of ideologies their head. If we want perestroyka to be implemented on the basis of the CPSU's positions and to produce the positive results which we have promised the people, we should realize that neither the People's Front of Latvia nor the recently emerged social democratic party—much less parties along the lines of 'Helsinki'86'—can produce what the people expect.

"As a Central Committee member I would say that in all the years of stagnation I do not recall such an irresponsible attitude as that recently displayed toward the speeches by Central Committee members at our plenums and bureau meetings. There have been no replies to proposals. Is this really the way the party leadership works, is this really the way that healthy public opinion is formed?"

"It would be naive to assume that no political or economic difficulties would arise in the process of perestroyka," V.D. Sarkan, first secretary of Talsinskiy Latvian Communist Party Rayon Committee, said. "Such difficulties exist and will continue to exist. We are all learning to work in a new situation. I will say frankly that we have received very many protests in response to the statement. The trouble is that in drawing up such a responsible document everything is mixed together. Yes, 51 enterprises were on strike for almost a month in Estonia, but our position is completely different. There is no emergency [ekstremalnaya situatsiya]. People are living and working calmly. But such statements provide a reason to exacerbate the situation. Of course, there are problems. But we have people to work on those problems locally. I do not understand why such important documents are adopted unbeknownst to the republic Communist Party leadership. If we have resolved to work openly, democratically, and honestly, these principles should be observed by top-level party leaders too."

Brazauskas Cited on Independence Issue

PM0209190389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by special correspondent Captain 2d Rank A. Pilipchuk "Interethnic Relations: We Monitor Events" and the general heading "Lessons of Truth and Responsibility": "Lithuania: What Does Sovereignty Mean?"]

[Text] Vilnius, 1 Sep—The republic newspapers have published the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium decree deferring the 12th Lithuanian Supreme Soviet session. Judging by the reactions, this announcement has sparked the most polarized views. There was also speculation among a section of the indigenous population that "menacing noises" from Moscow had had an impact. This is a reference to the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics. But the actual content of the decree refutes any speculation: A considerable number of important documents whose drafts are being actively discussed by the public are being submitted for examination by the session, and additional time is needed for them to be finalized and examined by the deputies' commissions. Proceeding from this, the decree states, the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium has set a new date for convening the session—24 October.

The republic's legislators have indeed found themselves in a unique situation in terms of time pressure. And it is not only a matter of the large number of documents under examination. It is impossible to disregard the fact that the reaction to a number of them, particularly the draft law relating to republic citizenship, has not been unequivocal. Active discussion of this draft law is continuing. Recently, for example, there was a rally of the collectives of the Vilnius radiometric instruments plant and its main scientific research institute at which the CPSU Central Committee statement and the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee statement on the situation in the republic were discussed. Here too different approaches to assessing the present situation were in evidence. Labor veteran M. Timen, director of the plant's museum of combat and labor glory, saw the draft citizenship law as one of the causes of interethnic friction. But enterprise Komsomol [Communist Youth League] Committee Secretary A. Bloznyalis considers that a sovereign republic should also have its own citizens who are distinguished from others at least in terms of political rights.

These and other pressing questions are also being examined at meetings between Lithuanian Communist Party leaders and working people. In a conversation with workers and engineering and technical personnel at the "Nuklon" plant in Shyaulyay, A. Brazauskas, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, stressed that considerable unnecessary passions are arising over the term "the republic's independence." People see in it a single objective—leaving the USSR. But independence and sovereignty mean a republic's right to independently resolve all questions of internal life. This is the way we see this concept, A. Brazauskas concluded.

Soviet Power Defense Committee Holds Rally

LD0409174789 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Vilnius September 4 TASS—ELTA-TASS—A meeting of working people was held in the Lithuanian capital, attended also by representatives from Klaipeda, Snechkus and other areas of the republic. The meeting was convened by the recently formed Committee for the Defence of Soviet Power in Lithuania. It discussed the statement of the CPSU Central Committee "On the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics" and presented demands to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian Republic.

Speakers at the meeting said they shared the concern expressed in the statement over the trends in the development of the social and political situation in Lithuania. The meeting's participants urged all the people of the republic to spare no efforts and show good will in order to assert inter-ethnic accord, mutual respect and cooperation.

On behalf of the working people of different nationalities and social strata of Lithuanian population the meeting appealed to the Supreme Soviet of the republic not to adopt laws and decrees aimed at getting Lithuania out of the USSR and running counter to the USSR Constitution. They demanded that the law on elections guarantee for all citizens of non-Lithuanian nationality a proportional representation in the elected bodies of power and that the law on nationality be brought in line with the principles of the CPSU platform on nationalities policy. The meeting's participants also made other demands on ensurance of real equal rights for people of all nationalities residing in Lithuania, democratisation of society, the status of the Lithuanian Communist Party and others.

The previous day another meeting was held in the same place, organized by the Inter-ethnic Coordination Association of Lithuania. Its participants discussed inter-ethnic relations in the republic and gave their assessment to the CPSU Central Committee statement. Speakers said that problems of inter-ethnic relations did not cause in them the concern that was lately being discussed in the central press, and denied accusations alleging unequal status of ethnic minorities residing in the republic. The meeting urged stronger friendship ties between people of different nationalities, stating that Lithuania was the motherland for all of them.

Regrettably, however, at both meetings some speakers did not demonstrate a sense of measure and responsibility for assessments and demands. And it is perhaps now, as never before, that assessments and demands must be based on logic, rational judgement and account for realities.

Further on Rallies

LD0309195189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Correspondent S. Chekalin report from Vilnius]

[Text] [Chekalin] Yesterday, in Vilnius' Nargornyy Park, a rally was held devoted to interethnic relations which was organized by the Interethnic Coordinating Association of Lithuania. In the evening, the local television transmitted a report on the subject, in which the reporter, Vanda Predite, said that the central press would hardly be covering the rally, and even if it did, it would hardly be in an objective manner. Well, we have to say that Central Television did film the event and we will be showing it to you now.

[First Voice] Both languages can be heard...

[Second voice] ... and the political process. [applause]

[Third voice] ... bankrupt institutions, and it is obvious...

[Fourth voice] [applause] ... and to say no to Soviet chauvinism and imperialism, no to the enormous collective farm called the Soviet Union. [Applause] [Video shows rally, with the Lithuanian flag in the audience; speaker at lectern; sections of the crowd; crowd applauding]

[Chekalin] The rally adopted a resolution on the CPSU Central Committee draft platform on the nationalities issue and the Central Committee statement on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics. The resolution was negative.

There was another rally today, called by the just-established Committee for the Defense of Soviet Power in Lithuania. [video shows a leaflet, which reads as follows:
Citizens of Soviet Lithuania! The stability and unity of the USSR are in danger.
In the republic, there are attempts to unleash a campaign against the CPSU line for a free sovereign Lithuanian within the union of fraternal, free, sovereign socialist republics.
All come to rally 3 September this year in Nagornyy Park.
Starts at 1700.
[Signed] Committee for the Defense of Soviet Power in Lithuania;

Video goes on to show speaker at microphones under a banner, reading; "Together and as Equals," with a crowd around him; camera pans to show more of the applauding crowd]

Here is an extract from its appeal to the population: Realizing that socialism and Soviet power in Lithuania are under the threat of a terrible danger, we fully approve the CPSU Central Committee statement about the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics, since we are witnessing at first hand a campaign unprecedented in size which is preparing to take Lithuania out of the composition of the USSR. [Video shows crowd under a banner reading; "We are for the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic."]

It is probably not by accident that this sense of anxiety for the fate of socialism and the republic has brought these people to the rally. Such rallies arouse a feeling of anxiety.

So as not to end our report on this alarming note—after all, today is Sunday—I would like to say that the fine city of Vilnius is not living by rallies alone. On this Sunday evening, the strings of lights on the Opera Theater are shining brightly, gardeners and mushroom pickers are coming back from the countryside, there are sounds of music coming from the restaurants and cafes, and there are sounds of multilingual speech. [Video shows more speakers at rally; crowd at rally; youth with the USSR flag running through the crowd; banner in the crowd reading: "We Demand Respect for the Constitutional Rights of the Working People."]

Brazauskas Criticizes Soviet Committee

LD0409191289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Report by S. Chekalin; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A news conference was held today in the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania. Comrade Brazauskas, first secretary of the Central Committee, met with journalists from the local and central press, radio, and television. He answered many questions. They were pressing questions arising from the rather extraordinary situation in the republic. For example, we reported yesterday that the newly formed Union for the Defense of Soviet Power in Lithuania gathered several tens of thousands of people at a rally.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Comrade first secretary, how do you evaluate the appearance in the republic of this new organization, the Union for the Defense of Soviet Power in Lithuania? Do you think that Soviet power is in need of defending in Lithuania?

[Brazauskas] I think that at the present time there is no need to defend Soviet power in Lithuania. There is no need. But there is of course a group of persons, mainly they are secretaries of party committees, of large party organizations; we intend to meet them in the next few days, and clarify their position, so to speak, to see what their aims are, see why this organization is being set up. I think we shall clarify these questions. I can repeat that we, as a Central Committee, do not see that there is any need today to defend with any measures or means Soviet power in Lithuania.

[Reporter] What is the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee doing now to consolidate the forces of the main movements, which are unfortunately in opposition to each other, the Sajudis and Yedinstvo?

[Brazauskas] The question is, of course, not such an easy one. The fact that you have asked this question-...[changes thought] if it were so easy to solve, we probably would not be in this situation. Well, what are we doing? In general, I think, as a Central Committee, we must say that we are trying to explain to the people, the basic masses, well, all the people of course, I am appealing to the basic masses or part of the population of Lithuania, asking them nevertheless to react calmly and with understanding to all the phenomena. That is the first thing.

Now, as for the Sajudis and Yedinstvo. We should probably not formulate this question like that, I imagine, but we should formulate the question as seeking a dialogue between individual groups, national groups, betweeen the indigenous nation, the Lithuanians, who make up 80 percent of the population of Lithuania, and that part of the population, like the Poles, who are an indigenous group, an indigenous nationality living in the territory of Lithuania, and a group of people which fate brought to Lithuania for whatever reason after the war. All the more since some of them now have been born here, that is to say probably the third generation is living here, (?because) they have adapted themselves to this environment. But the main thing is that we need to find points of contact on the national question. Then the political questions being put by both the Sajudis and Yedinstvo will be solved.

(?But) today in fact, in practice, none of these people's rights are being trampled on. There has been absolutely nothing of the sort, except perhaps the law on the state language. We understand this very well. This wave has passed. Of course this question, as in all republics, was felt very painfully. We understand this very well. We worked on it, and will work on it in the future. I think the implementation of this law will pass without confrontation. I would, of course, be very glad if ways and means had been found how, after all, to unite and find some sort of common points, and common goals for future actions, for all the nationalities and not to be polarized like this in different directions. [end recording]

Answering other questions, the secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee said, among other things, that the communists of the republic will continue down the path of perestroyka in the future and keep to the theses formulated at the 18th plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania.

Lithuanian Party Official on Press Reports

LD0209214289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 2 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Vilnius on Saturday. As is customary here in the Baltics, many Vilnius residents spend time in these little, cozy cafes, under cover or, as here, under umbrellas, over a coffee, leafing through the fresh newspapers, exchanging the news, and arguing. All in all, one could say without exaggeration that it is in the cafes of Vilnius that public opinion is formed to a considerable extent. [video: tables on a square by a cafe; interview with woman seated at a table, identified on caption as Ya.I. Gagilene, member of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee. Correspondent Viktor Beketov reports:

[Begin recording] [Beketov] Yanina (Ionna), how is our brother journalist helping you today in resolving the difficult problems raised at this stage of restructuring?

[Gagilene] We are, so to speak, meeting central journalists for the first time. However, we don't think it will be the last. We would like to ask the PRAVDA editorial office and other organs of the press and the Central Committee information [as heard] to come and see us more often, to study the situation, to mix with us, to employ what here are now the usual forms, that is, of political work, open forms, i.e. discussion, meetings and political days.

[Beketov] What about the local press? What is your attitude to it? They are now very discordant. Yesterday, for example, speaking on the "Vremya" program, I said that VECHERNYYE NOVOSTI, the newspaper which is the organ of the city party committee, was publishing reactions, specifically, to the Central Committee statement and to the statement of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee in a very biased way. And again, in today's issue there is an article "Worrying Days of August," a collection of reactions which are entirely one-sided and tendentious, that is, negative reactions. But there are, no doubt, people in this republic who might express an alternative point of view. A great deal has appeared in such publications as SOGLASIYE and VOZROZHDENIYE, the Sajudis publication, in which there is frank, often anti-Soviet propaganda, in places there are anti-Russian statements. I could cite very many of those. What is your view of these phenomena?

[Gagilene] Well, Sajudis runs its own press for itself, and they, I think, decide for themselves what to print. People read, they seek, and they find. True, at times there have been complaints that statements are indeed one-sided, but of late they have been varied.

[Beketov] I think that this kind of stance can create an atmosphere of destructiveness. I know that you are having a meeting today in Nagornyy Park—there will be a meeting tomorrow in Nagornyy Park of still other forces—has not this confrontation been caused by the stance of the press?

[Gagilene] To a certain extent that could have some kind of effect, but I would say that there has not been a week here when there has not been some kind of meeting in Nagornyy Park or in other places. We think this necessary and essential, both to the party and to the leaders of Sajudis, to those who shape policy in the republic today, and we are trying to do this through joint efforts so that all progressive political forces find common solutions.

[Beketov] I am very worried by confrontation issues. After all, the republic is moving over to regional financial autonomy. From 1 January the whole country will be watching you. What example can you set of how things will go in the remaining republics and in the oblasts of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic? Would it not be better not to be holding meetings but concentrating attention on the economy?

[Gagilene] We are continually thinking about that, but so far, through the sober efforts of the managers of our industrial enterprises and all economic activists and party committees, we are succeeding in somehow combining all political life with a normal rhythmic labor process. [end recording]

Lithuanian Government, Sajudis, Party Leaders Meet

LD0209223789 Vilnius in English to North America 2220 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] A joint sitting of the Lithuanian Government and the Sajudis Seimas Council was held in Vilnius today. It was attended by the Lithuanian Communist Party leader Algirdas Brazauskas, chairman of Lithuanian's Supreme Soviet Presidium Vytautas Astrauskas, and chairman of the Sajudis Seimas Council Vytautas Landsbergis.

The participants discussed the political situation in Lithuania and dealt with the reasons for postponing till the end of October the session of Lithuania's Supreme Soviet scheduled for next week. The session was to consider and adopt the laws on citizenship, elections and referendums, of special importance to Lithuanians.

The Sajudis leaders pointed out that most of Lithuania's residents believe that Moscow is pressing the Lithuanian Government to postpone the session of the Supreme Soviet. In the opinion of Lithuania's leaders the situation in the republic is rather tense and the adoption of the above laws might only complicate matters worse and even provoke strikes. But Sajudis considers that there are no guarantees of the situation becoming more favorable by the end of October, so the session ought to be convened as soon as possible.

In the long run a compromise proposal was made to convene the session on 20 September, but the final decision will be taken on Monday.

Brazauskas on Postponement of Supreme Soviet Session

LD0209030689 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] In his traditional Friday radio interview, the Lithuanian Communist Party leader, Algirdas Brazauskas, focused undoubtedly on the statement by the Central Committee of the Soviet Union's Communist Party and its possible consequences for Lithuania. Algirdas Brazauskas expressed great concern about the state of Lithuania's economic self-dependence. As is known, in October the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union ought to pass the law on the economic self-dependence of the Baltic republics, but after the appearance of the above statement the all-union members and organizations which are to promote that law have been neglecting this work.

Algirdas Brazauskas also referred to (?the fate) of Lithuania's economic self-dependence as one of the many serious reasons for postponing the session of Lithuania's Supreme Soviet to the end of October. In general there are more reasons for the session's postponement than indicated in the decree issued by the Presidium of [the] Lithuanian Supreme Soviet. The decree says that the decision has been taken because the forthcoming session is to consider many important documents: the laws on elections, citizenship, and referendum [as heard] which continue to be the subject of active discussions among the public and require additional time to be finally made out.

Algirdas Brazauskas also drew attention to the fact that the session must assess the conclusions of the commission of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet to investigate the 1939 German-Soviet treaties and their consequences. As is known the Moscow statement opens with an expression of dissatisfaction that the results have been made public before the conclusions of an analogous commission appointed by the Congress of People's Deputies of the Soviet Union.

It's difficult to say today whether the Moscow statement would influence the decisions of the session of [the] Lithuanian Supreme Soviet if it were convened on the earlier appointed date, that is, on 5 September. One could also speculate, however, that the session is being postponed because of tactical considerations, so that passions will subside as well as the unhealthy propagandist campaign in the Soviet Union regarding the situation in the Baltic region and the deputies could work normally.

We must, however, acknowledge the rather unpleasant fact that a polarization of views is becoming obvious in Lithuania.

Sajudis Adopts Appeal to Deputies

LD0209025989 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] A session of the Sajudis Seimas Council was held in Vilnius today. It adopted an appeal to the deputies of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet. The appeal was signed by 24 MPs of Lithuania and the Soviet Union. They expressed the opinion that the decision to postpone the session of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet will be met unfavorably in Lithuania as the response of an intimidated presidium to the Moscow statement. The explanations that the session needs more time to be prepared are unsatisfactory.

The statement goes on to say: We are convinced that there are a lot of issues at present which must be considered by the session, and their postponement will do irreparable damage to Lithuania. Those are the issues of economic self-dependence, referendum, elections, the military service of Lithuanian youth, the assessment of the political situation in Lithuania and other issues. Some draft laws, as for instance the one on Lithuanian citizenship, would most probably not be adopted, but they would be submitted for the first reading. We are of the opinion that the session's postponement shows our leadership's lack of confidence even in the present Supreme Soviet, as well as its wish to postpone as much as possible the forthcoming democratic elections to the local Soviets. This will suspend Lithuania's advance towards self-dependence and provide ground to claim that the present supreme state authority of Lithuania avoids taking decisions on issues of vital importance to the republic. Unquote.

Brazauskas Says Sovereignty Within Union Feasible

LD0109162989

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 1300 GMT on 25 August broadcasts a 25-minute interview with Lithuanian Communist Party first Secretary Algirdas Brazauskas by radio correspondent Edvinas Butkus. The date and place of the interview are not given.

Butkus opens the interview by noting the current anniversary of the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. Brazauskas says: "Lithuanians have been impatiently awaiting this date, hoping that all those historical events, so painful to us today, will be given a proper assessment. Unfortunately we have not had any such assessment from the center, or from the commission set up by the Congress of People's Deputies. We would like very much to have their conclusions.

"However, the commission set up by our Supreme Soviet, quickly and without delay—some accuse of being too quick—has produced and published its conclusions. Of course these conclusions are very sharp, but I understand that perhaps all of us, including this commission, must be on the side of justice, to evaluate the events and to adopt corresponding decisions which should indeed be adopted.

"Of course, this causes a reaction, a very sharp reaction, too. Even quite some time before 23 August the issue was underlined by us at various large sessions and discussions in the center. We said that the events should be assessed as they are, and not as we would like them to be. Today the times are different, people are different, the level of democratization is different and this process continues.

"And, well, the conclusions are very grave, indeed, but we all have to concentrate and think together how we are going to go on from here." Brazauskas goes on to speak about the human chain from Vilnius to Tallinn, describing it as an event of gigantic scope which uniquely demonstrated people's determination, will, and ability to organize themselves well. He continues:

"However, life does not stand still. Therefore, we all have to think about the future. The word 'independence' is on everybody's lips; Even we, leaders of the republic, party leaders, have began to use this word. This, of course, caused a discussion among those who somehow do not get deeply into the issue.

"First of all of this word and concept, and therefore, the understanding of the concept 'independence or sovereignty'—and I treat them as absolute synonyms—is of great important to us today. We are making categorical statements such as independent Lithuania outside the Soviet Union, or independent Lithuania within the Soviet Union. This is a very categorical description of how individual people, individual leaders feel and understand it.

"However, we cannot escape from reality, from the position we are in today. And what does this mean? We have been having discussions here among us, and we have also proposed to Sajudis to set up a joint commission—in fact we have not yet set it up—which would give a specific definition of this concept. This should explain to the people of Lithuania that independence and sovereignty are possible when nations join the union of their own will."

Brazauskas goes on to explain in greater detail what this union should be and what rights the union republics should enjoy. He says that the word "federation" in connection with the Soviet Union is rather unsuitable because the union comprises free sovereign states, which has also been defined by the constitution. The right of self-determination has been preserved. He goes on to say:

"This interpretation, I think, is acceptable. Because, there is, nevertheless, a mechanism by the help of which the highest will of the nation can be fulfilled. Therefore, a state which is within the union can also be a sovereign and free state.

"Well, if the interpretation runs to the extreme of secession from the Soviet Union today—and having in mind only this while rejecting all that surrounds us, the entire political situation, our huge economic ties which perhaps are not known and comprehensible to everybody, where we get everything from, and I have spoken about it on many occasions already—then we are confronted with the solution to problems concerning economy and social life."

Further, Brazauskas speaks about the short-term tasks to be carried out in connection with the forthcoming economic independence of the republic. He says that such bitter articles as, for example, the article in PRAVDA on 25 August, and other declarations, could be an obstacle. They act as a hindrance to the republic's aspirations for economic sovereignty.

He goes on:

"Meanwhile, there is another obstacle, the failure to understand each other. This is an inner obstacle. Perhaps it is greater and perhaps it produces a greater negative influence than outside factors. Because it seems that we have already agreed what we should do and how we should react to various questions. But then I would say a battle of declarations begins. Some people think the more vitriolic the wording of the declaration, the greater is the victory. However, victories do not come that way. We have to remember that the process of democratization has to become deeper around us; we must not think that we can leave this context and solve all these issues very rapidly."

He calls on everybody to think about this intricate problem.

Next, the question of the new program and statute of the Lithuanian Communist Party is raised.

Brazauskas provides a detailed account of what has already been done with respect to the party program and statute and what still needs to be done.

Speaking of inspectors from the center Brazauskas says:

"We have many visitors. They arrive from the Central Committee from Moscow, and from other organizations. We discuss the issue, we explain to them why this or that is necessary, we talk about individual statements included in the draft.

"I think this discussion is normal I even would say that the reaction is also normal. Well, in fact it is not normal, because the issue is unique in the life of the party when a separate party organization, specifically the Lithuanian Communist Party, is preparing its own program documents. And we shall have to work hard in order to prove that the documents are logical. We shall have to talk a lot about the form and the content as well.

"Well, I must say that there are many statements which have surfaced in the documents. For example, one of the questions which causes everybody concern is freedom of conscience for a Communist Party member."

Butkus asks his personal point of view on this issue, to which Brazauskas says that he cannot always voice his points of view. Usually his views can be seen in the results of some work. He adds that he is more inclined to the idea that Communist Party members should have absolute freedom of conscience.

Next, Brazauskas is asked why the dialogue between Moscow and Lithuania has not started, as he promised in his previous inteview; instead moralizing and platitudes have come from the center.

Brazauskas explains this by indicating a huge gap in the mutual understanding, especially concerning such concepts as independence, sovereignty, and many others. The wish voiced by the people of Lithuania for freedom is not always understood there. He says:

"Many questions could be solved if the understanding of these aspirations is identical or similar. And the belief voiced by some high-ranking officials that this is only the desire of some small group is erroneous. We understand that this is the aspiration of the majority of the people."

Brazauskas goes on to say that the trouble is that here in Lithuania the rhythm of perestroyka is different from everywhere else. If the speed were the same, much more could have been achieved. When people here want to accelerate the process it turns into a hindrance.

Next Butkus asks:

"While confirming the economic independence and adopting the final law at the second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, do you think that the discussion may acquire a different direction?"

Brazauskas replies:

"I am afraid I do believe it will. I think it will acquire a different direction. Because today we have not touched the nationality issues. These are not so simple and they are not getting any less complicated. The question of ethnic arrogance has come to the surface—the arrogance of the Russian nation. The flare-up in Estonia recently, as well as the confrontation in the form of strikes, of course all has an effect not only locally in the republic, but a wave of it went through the entire USSR. The deputies are not all people from the Baltic states, and then there are many deputies, especially from the Russian Federation. And we cannot ignore general opinion. "Therefore, the discussion can be extremely difficult in October when the law on economic sovereignty is to be adopted."

Following this, Brazauskas says that despite all this there is no need to panic: people will go to Moscow, and will try to prove their points.

He says that people should support Gorbachev's line, because the whole process of restructuring could be upset otherwise.

Several more unimportant issues are discussed, following which the interview is concluded.

Armenians Flee Azerbaijan Capital Before Rally

AU0209134489 Paris AFP in English 1013 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Moscow, Sept 2 (AFP)—Ethnic Armenians were fleeing Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, where a mass rally was planned for later Saturday to demonstrate the strength of nationalist feelings in the southern Soviet republic.

Armenians arriving at Moscow airport said some of their friends had been attacked by Azeri youths in the streets of Baku, others had had their flats ransacked or had received anonymous telephone calls warning them to get out of town "within 48 hours".

The local Azerbaijan Foreign Ministry acknowledged that there had indeed been some "attacks" against local Armenians and that a new exodus had started about a month ago.

Tension in the Transcaucasian republic has been high ever since February 1988 when Azeris massacred ethnic Armenians in Sumgait, a town just outside Baku. Since then clashes have centered around the autonomous region of Nagorno-Karabakh, a mostly Armenian enclave inside Azerbaijan which ethnic Armenians want to see handed over to the Armenian republic.

Fearing that Saturday's demonstration might degenerate into an anti-Armenian rally, organizers from the unofficial popular front of Azerbaijan have posted bills in the streets of Baku calling on the population not to give in to "provocations" which could result in pogroms.

Local television said Friday that former soldiers who have served in Afghanistan were being mobilized to help maintain law and order, while according to Leila Yunusova [name as received], a Popular Front spokesman, paratroopers have been deployed in town for the past week.

New reinforcements of internal ministry security forces have also been sent to Nargorno-Karabakh this week.

Officially demonstrations are banned in Baku, but a number of rallies have been held in recent weeks without any attempt by authorities to stop them. Saturday's demonstration was to be addressed by party leaders who were expected to appeal to the population not to join a general strike, which could take place as of Monday, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

The Popular Front hopes that the rally, which might draw as many as half a million people, will put pressure on the local parliament to affirm its "sovereignty" over the running of affairs in Azerbaijan, notably over Nagorno-Karabakh, which has been administered directly by Moscow since December.

The front also wants the lifting of a night curfew imposed last November and greater democracy within the republic which it claims is still run by old-guard communists opposed to "perestroika".

Meanwhile, a meeting of communist party leaders from Azerbaijan and Armenia was held Thursday at the Central Committee in Moscow, chaired by two members of the ruling Politburo, Viktor Chebrikov and Nikolay Slyunkov.

Half Million in Baku, 40,000 in Kiev Demonstrate

AU0209175189 Paris AFP in English 1719 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Moscow, Sept 2 (AFP)—More than 500,000 people turned out Saturday in the Azerbaijan capital Baku demanding that the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh remain under the control of their republic, organizers said.

Leila Yunussova [name as received], a spokeswoman for the local Popular Front which called the demonstration, said none of the interior ministry troops enforcing a curfew in the republic were seen at the demonstration, although local police were present.

Popular Front members formed a human chain around Baku's Lenin Square and were checking the bags of people entering, Mrs. Yunussova said. [passage omitted]

A large Azerbaijan national flag was positioned at a speaker's podium in the square while signs in English demanded "Freedom for Political Prisoners" and "Sovereignty" and denounced the "Diktat of Moscow."

The protesters were to decide whether to call for a general strike from Monday to press demands for the convening of a special session of the local Supreme Soviet, or parliament, Mrs. Yunussova said.

No party or government officials were seen at the demonstration despite hints from official sources that they might participate.

One of the first speakers denounced the "bias" of Moscow-based media in reporting on the Azerbaijan-Armenian conflict and also blasted Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, the republic's party leader.

All traffic in the center of the city was stopped at the start of the rally—the fifth of its kind in Baku since the beginning of August.

Similar mass demonstrations were held in the Armenian capital Yerevan last month, with protesters demanding the transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh into Armenia.

In the Ukrainian capital Kiev, some 40,000 people demonstrated Saturday to press for publication of an electoral reform bill drafted by progressive local members of parliament, the Moscow spokesman of an unofficial Ukrainian movement Helsinki Union said.

The spokesman, Anatoli Dotsenko [name as received], said that members of the local Communist Party spoke at the Kiev meeting, but a similar meeting at Dnepropetrovsk was banned. Hundreds of police frustrated repeated attempts by the protesters to gather in Dnepropetrovsk, and made a number of arrests, Mr. Dotsenko said.

Mass meetings took place in dozens of Ukrainian towns at the beginning of last month in response to a call from a group of deputies, as a electoral law bill which they saw as extremely conservative was published in the official press.

The Soviet Union's 15 republics have been left free to decide when and how to hold elections to local soviets (councils) and their own parliamentary assemblies.

Azeris To Start General Strike on 4 Sep

AU0309135089 Paris AFP in English 0218 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Moscow, Sept 3 (AFP)—Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, called Saturday for a general strike to press demands for a special session of the local parliament, protesters reached by telephone said.

The demonstrators, demanding that the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh remain under the control of their republic, agreed to begin the one-week strike on Monday.

Two hundred thousand demonstrators turned out, according to a correspondent for the independent GLASNOST news bulletin, but organizers of the rally said almost 500,000 people attended.

Demonstrators demanded that a date for the parliament meeting be set and urged the release of Azeri "political prisoners", the official recognition of Azerbaijan's nationalist Popular Front movement and the lifting of a curfew declared in November.

Protesters said a secretary of the Azeri Communist Party's Central Committee attended the rally but gave up plans to speak after the general strike motion was adopted.

Leila Yunussova [name as received], a spokeswoman for the Popular Front which called the demonstration, said none of the interior ministry troops enforcing the curfew were seen at the demonstration. Other reports said several hundred local police were present near Baku's Lenin Square where the rally was held. [passage omitted]

Speakers blasted "attacks by Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenians against its Azeri people" and said the parliament meeting must be held under democratic and open conditions. [passage omitted]

No incidents were reported during the meeting and no anti-Armenian slogans shouted, contrary to similar demonstrations in November which had been marred by violence.

Peaceful demonstrations were also held in over 10 other Azerbaijan towns Saturday, sources said.

Ahead of the rally, two Front officials met with Deputy Interior Minister General Shatalin, who arrived at Baku with additional troops earlier this week.

Front members said Gen. Shatalin promised that troops would not intervene as long as the demonstration was peaceful. [passage omitted]

Strikes Begin

LD0409162589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] As our correspondent Islam Kuliyev has reported from Baku, strikes began today [4 Sep] at many enterprises and construction and transportation organizations in Azerbaijan. They are being staged in response to a call by the republic's unofficial popular front. The main demand of the strikers is connected to the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast.

'Gripped By A Strike'

NC0409110189 Paris AFP in English 1848 GMT 4 Sep 89

[By Sophie Shihab]

[Text] Baku, Soviet Union, Sep 4 (AFP)—The capital of Azerbaijan was gripped by a strike Monday in support of nationalist demands for control of a disputed Armenian enclave within this outlying Soviet republic.

Several factories were idle, public transport slowed and port activity was halted as workers observed a strike call by the Azerbaijan Popular Front, a movement of nationalists who have clashed with ethic Armenians living in the republic.

A petroleum city of two million, Baku has been under army curfew since last November after Azeris massacred ethnic Armenians in Sumgait, a town near here. The city remained calm and no troops were seen on the streets. Backup forces had arrived here last week in the wake of rumors that more anti-Armenian attacks were being planned.

A machine manufacturing factory with 2,000 workers and a nearby steel factory employing 1,000 were seen to be completely idle.

"We have no choice. The Armenians are taking our land, Moscow is backing them, our leaders are saying nothing and the whole world is against us," said Wassef, one of the steel factory's strike leaders.

There has been no word in the local press or the Moscow media of either the strike or a mass rally held here Saturday in advance of the strike. But there are reports of near-continuous ethnic clashes in the predominantly Armenian enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Strike organizers had not called on grocery stores, schools or factories on round-the-clock shifts to take part. The director of Baku's petrochemical complex employing 13,000 workers in several plants told AFP by phone that none of his factories had stopped work.

Demonstrations were seen attempting to block the passage of buses as city traffic police tried to shove them aside. Baku's two subway lines were also affected by the strike.

Nationalists had drawn more than 100,000 demonstrators here Saturday calling for a weeklong strike to begin Monday. Organizers demanded a special local parliamentary session to confirm Azeri control of Nagorno-Karabakh, the release of Azeri nationalist militants, official recognition for their movement and the lifting of the 10-month old army curfew.

Arkadiy Volskiy, president of a special commission set up by Moscow to administer Nagorno-Karabakh warned Sunday that the contested region, home to 170,000 people, mostly Armenians, was on the verge of "civil war." Local Armenians there have been demanding that their enclave be absorbed by the Armenian socialist republic.

Azerbaijan Popular Front leaders said only military convoys could travel the road from Baku to Stepanakert, the main city in Nagorno-Karabakh for fear of gunfire from armed Armenians. Armenians activists said convoys between the republic of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh were also regularly attacked by Azeris.

The rise in tensions has meanwhile hastened the exodus of Armenians from Baku. The head of interior ministry troops stationed here estimated that only 40,000 Armenians remained out of an original 200,000 before last year's conflicts.

Meanwhile, some 100,000 Azeri refugees have fled Armenia to settle here.

More on 4 Sep Strike

NC0509064489 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] The uncontrolled activities of extremists and nationalists in Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO], which create discord between the two peoples in the region, must be halted. The sovereignty and constitutional rights of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic and the laws of the Soviet Union must be fully enforced to normalize the situation in the NKAO.

These are the demands of work collectives at many industrial establishments in the republic which began a strike on 4 September.

The strikers believe that the republic's borders cannot be allowed to be distorted by the opponents of reconstruction.

Baku Military Urges Citizens To Be Cautious

NC0209201489 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Notice by Baku City special district military commandant]

[Text] Using various excuses, individuals have recently tried to enter military forces and unit areas and installations under protection in the republic.

The command headquarters of the military units in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic calls on all citizens not to try to enter areas under protection in a way resembling a raid of [words indistinct]. Such an attempt may lead to irreparable consequences.

The military commanders have taken complex measures to enhance military installation security and upgrade vigilance during guard duty. The rules and regulations authorize a guard to use arms without confirmation from his superior officers if he or his installation is openly attacked. Foreseeing every develoment is impossible. This or that citizen my pass near a military installation without maliciaous intent. However, he may draw the guard's attention. Under these circumstances, that citizen's failure to follow the guard's instructions will guarantee tragedy.

Remember that if the individual causing trouble insists and tries to enter the installation or post, or if he tries to escape after his attempt, the guard will fire a warning shot. He will then aim at the person if that individual fails to abide by his instructions. This is the way the guards understand and execute the law.

Clear and explicit signs have been put up near the military installations to direct the movement of citizens near these places. I urge that the instructions be obeyed.

Furthermore, I strongly urge the republic's citizens to be cautious, respectful, and patient in their contacts with the troops, who are fulfilling their constitutional duties in Azerbaijan and in military installations by maintaining and protecting them. It is essential to resolutely obstruct every effort that may result in loss of life or create tension between the army and the republic. [Signed] Major General Sokolov, military commandant of the Baku City Special District.

Nagorno-Karabakh 'Close to Internecine War'

PM0209173089 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[report by Special correspondent Colonel V. Gavrilenko from Nagorno-Karabakh: "Blindness"]

[Excerpts] Stepanakert, Baku, 1 Sep—Stepanakert itself is calm, but there is tension in the Special District commandant's office. District commandant Major General V. Safonov, an athletically built, resolute man, is constantly receiving reports: an attack on a column, firing on a checkpoint, hostage-taking....

It is only a stone's throw from the commandant's office to the editorial office of the local newspaper SOVETSKIY KARABAKH. I went in, asked for the week's papers, and started reading. "The opposing side has blocked all the railroad spurs into the oblast, the 'railroad war' has been stepped up...innocent people are dying, ...there was an attempt to evade inspection by a truck driver who was secretly bringing in ammunition..."

I have no wish to overemphasize or dramatize the situation, but are these newspaper extracts not reminiscent of dispatches from the front?

A conversation with A. Volskiy, chairman of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] Special Administration Committee, convinced me—no, I am not overemphasizing or dramatizing. Arkadiy Ivanovich stressed that the situation in the oblast is close to the danger point of internecine war. The nervous tension in people, both Azerbaijanis and Armenians, has reached its peak, and the danger of ill-considered steps fraught with unpredictable consequences has risen to an extreme point. People's hearts and minds are now like tinder, ready to catch fire at any spark. Extremists on both sides are striking sparks.

To my question on the role of the internal troops stationed and operating in the oblast, the chairman of the Special Administration Committee replied that their main task is to separate the opposing sides, deter bloodshed, and ensure peace and order. The troops are succeeding in this, and the population of the NKAO is full of profound gratitude for it. Although there are, of course, hotheads who demand the troops' withdrawal. Unseemly sorties are constantly taking place against the servicemen, even going as far as shootings and attacks on their posts. The Special Administration Committee has appealed to the NKAO population to inform it of their attitude toward the internal troops. Hundreds of letters have already been received expressing one and the same view—the troops should stay. The letters are still coming in. Arkadiy Ivanovich Volskiy added that the servicemen of the internal troops are serving in exceptionally complex conditions, and situations inviting the use of weapons often arise. But the servicemen, risking their lives, find another solution every time.

I asked Arkadiy Ivanovich Volskiy to explain his attitude to the "National Council" recently elected in the NKAO. My interviewee noted that the people forming it go no further in their activity than talk, and that he considers the formation of this alternative organ to be premature.

This talk with the chairman of the Special Administration Committee took place on the day I left Stepanakert. It was hard to catch him in the office, and when I did catch him there, hard to find time to meet. People were constantly calling on him. And it was as if the threads of all the complex problems of Nagorno-Karabakh came together in his reception room. I also sensed these problems in the very first hours of my stay in Stepanakert.

I had hardly had time to get properly acquainted and talk with Maj Gen V. Safonov, commandant of the Special District, and his officers, when one of the constant stream of calls proved to be an alarm—the situation had deteriorated sharply in the oblast's Gadrutskiy Rayon...

So there I was in the back of a GAZ-66 van. Side by side with tall, erect, strong men from the special subunit of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] internal troops.

So what happened in Gadrut?

We were sitting in the office of G. Bagiyan, first secretary of Gadrutskiy Rayon Party Committee. Grigoriy Levonovich has a tired face and a sad voice. A few days ago a local collective farm started harvesting the grapes. Some of its plantations are in a neighboring rayon. And there, clashes with Azerbaijanis began to break out. They were started first by one side, then by the other. This time an explosion of emotion was caused by the arrest of two young people—Armenians. Molotov cocktails were found not far from where they were arrested. The men were sent on to the Fizulinskiy Rayon Internal Affairs Department. The Armenian section of the population exploded with indignation. Soon we were to become aware of these excessively turbulent sentiments; at one of Gadrut's intersections the road was blocked by a crowd of many dozens of people. They waved their fists at us, shouted, demanded that we release the detained men as if they were sitting in the van with us. When we managed to move off and proceed slowly along the road, for a long time a woman ran alongside, clinging to the side of the van, apparently the mother of one of the detained men, shouting monotonously: "You are worse than fascists!"; "Get out!"; "Murderers!"

Colonel B. Ponomarev, leader of our group, decided to go to the Fisulinskiy Rayon militia department and ask them to release the boys or transfer them to the Gadrutskiy Rayon department. Otherwise, you could expect an exacerbation of the conflict and clashes between residents of neighboring villages. I will not express an opinion on the legal side of the case, but in human terms I understood Boris Vasilyevich; he very much wanted to extinguish the blazing passions in this way.

We returned to Stepanakert between three and four in the morning; the first roosters were beginning to wake up in the suburbs. Boris Vasilyevich Ponomarev had joked along the road: Well, it turned out to be a lively night. Yes, lively, and not only for us. The radio in the truck was set to receive, and I heard reports coming in from everywhere about events identical or similar to those we had taken part in.

The night was not fated to end as simply as that. Two recently arrested young men were brought to the Stepanakert Internal Affairs Administration. This time, Azerbaijanis. One of them was from neighboring Shusha, the other all the way from Baku. The senior officer of an internal troops detail showed us a repeating small-caliber carbine taken from one of these young men. What were they doing at night? Shooting from the hill at the settlement below. On their detention they opened fire on the troop detail and detonated a homemade explosive device. One of the young men threw away a pistol in the darkness, the other tried to hurl himself into the ravine together with a soldier in a hand-to-hand fight.

The militia officer who accompanied the detainees to Stepanakert begged for permission to send them back to Shusha, to the local rayon internal affairs department. Only later did I understand his desperate insistence.

The following day I was in Shusha—a city with an Azerbaijani population. It is located among picturesque mountains, a beautiful city, with an ancient history and culture. On the way I learned what had happened. Apparently at the local House of Culture in Shusha a crowd of thousands were blockading several MVD workers and representatives of the local authority. They were demanding the return to the local militia of the two guys detained that night....

We arrived in the square to whistling and shouting from the crowd. We stopped, but they did not allow us to jump out; they surrounded us completely. Well, I thought bitterly, Armenian Gadrut is echoed in Azerbaijani Shusha....

What things I heard! I was ashamed for them, these people blinded by national enmity. At one point I wanted to climb up above them and shout: Comrades, dear brothers, what are you doing, come to your senses! There are many years of friendship behind us, the jointly shed blood of our fathers and grandfathers in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our common Motherland. Is that not worth living in concord and love in future?!

No, I did not climb up; I did not speak. They would not have heard, these blinded people. But I am saying it now, saying it also because someone shouted at me, there in the square: You write lies about events in Nagorno-Karabakh! Well, you wanted the truth, and I have written what I saw and heard. There is only one truth, as the saying goes, only everyone understands it in his own way.

Paper Notes Attacks on Trains in NKAO

NC0109140889 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0340 GMT 31 Aug 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] KOMMUNIST today published a report from Agdam by its correspondent Z. Sultanov under the headline "What Is the Situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] and Why Has It Not Been Terminated?" Sultanov writes that the safe movement of cargo and passenger railway cars along tracks connecting Agdam, Shusha, and Lachin Rayons, Agdam and Kel'badzhar Rayons, and Mir-Beshir and Kel'badzhar Rayons has been disrupted and that trains traveling along tracks which run through the NKAO have been attacked by individuals who act like bandits.

In his angry and emotional report, Sultanov notes that the acts of hooliganism are committed in front of officials responsible for law and order and military troops, who apparently ignore the incidents.

Sultanov's report concludes: If a special situation has been declared, how can such (?harmful) incidents take place right in front of representatives of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry special troops? It would not be out of line to ask just (?who and what they are protecting).

Arutyunyan Discusses Armenian, Azerbaijan Conflict

NC0209113089 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Speech by Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, on Armenian television on 29 August—ARMENPRES headline]

[Text] Yerevan, 1 September, ARMENPRES—Dear friends and compatriots:

The recently created situation urges me to appeal to the workers of the republic.

The times we live in are full of drama, anxieties, and hopes. Perestroyka has been a significant factor in our people's self- consciousness and has assured us that democratization and openness will help to solve problems in the political, socio-economic, and cultural spheres more actively. A difficult struggle is going on in the country to restore national politics on the basis of Leninist principles and to obliterate from history the vestiges of the years of Stalinist stagnation.

We are truly living through times that are extremely difficult. The situation in our region has become extremely heated and has taken a lethal turn. I will not be wrong if I say, for the sake of truth, that the tension between Armenia and Azerbaijan has culminated in the two peoples' facing each other in an extremely dangerous confrontation. Their animosity is leading to hostility. Come and let us call each other by name. We are on the brink of an interethnic war.

The outcome of today's situation is bloodshed by innocent victims, thousands of refugees, houses in ashes, and a heart-rending and nerve-racking atmosphere. The further exacerbation of tension can only result in pain and tears for mothers in both republics. Armenia has endured centuries of misfortune. It even endured the horrific earthquake. Should we now lose children for the sake of ethnic dissension?

I am appealing to you, dear compatriots, because I believe that my words will echo in your hearts. I am doing this because it is my duty as a communist and as an Armenian.

We have repeatedly spoken about the actual reasons and circumstances behind the situation that has been created. We have also spoken about this during the session of people's deputies of the Soviet Union. But the discussion today is on another issue. This juncture may have grave consequences if we do not confront it decisively.

By rejecting any kind of force, we will continue, as always, to positively support our people's respect, dignity, and sovereign rights, and we will decisively condemn all those appeals and acts that exacerbate the situation or harm interethnic relations.

The sagacity and patience shown by our people in the most unfavorable of circumstances have proven that they are brave. These characteristics made it possible for them to make their creative and ingenious cultural masterpieces survive through centuries of suffering.

I am sure that our people will remain faithful to their noble characteristics that have been forged through centuries and that in the current unprecedented atmosphere they will show themselves to be exemplary defenders of peace and justice.

Hatred and enmity are like a deserted, unending, and tiresome road leading nowhere. Our deeds and thoughts should stem from things which can help the peoples of the two republics to live side by side.

The people can and should come to an agreement. I appeal to the communists of the republic and to all workers; I appeal to the intellectuals, our veterans, our women and the youth, to the enterprising groups and movements for the sake of the wishes and objectives of the Armenian people. Come and let us search for wise paths and overcome the conflict between the two peoples. Come and let us build bridges over the disunity between the two peoples.

I want to inform you that at the initiative of the CPSU Central Committee, a direct meeting is to take place in Moscow between the members of the Armenian and Azerbaijani Communist Party Central Committees' Bureaus. I hope that, difficult as the talks may be, they can help our two republics to emerge from the painful situation. The problems that are acutely agitating the people can be solved only through just constitutional methods. It is not possible to reach a solution in any other way, nor is it permissible to obstruct their solution. This is a fact everyone should understand.

Carefully and deeply study the draft of the CPSU Central Committee on the party's policy on nationalities in contemporary conditions, which has been published for public study. That document propounds the concept of the true equality of the rights of all the nationalities in the USSR. Also, a series of steps for reconstruction in the Soviet federation have been envisioned in this document. Numerous views and proposals are being received, in relation to the draft, all of which are related in particular to the solution of interethnic conflicts. All these views and proposals will be very carefully studied.

Undoubtedly, important decisions will be adopted during the upcoming plenum of the CPSU Central Committee which will be devoted to a discussion of interethnic relations. The plenum will devote special attention to a mechanism for safeguarding ethnic interests and values and for improving the Soviet federation. The proposals to be made by the plenum will be taken to the highest state organ, the USSR Soviet of People's Deputies, to be studied. And as you know, the solution of problems that cannot be postponed in our region will be also studied by the fall session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Today I appeal to our people to unite their intellectual and moral forces.

Today we have so many worries and so many afflictions that we cannot allow ourselves to be affected by sentiments and to encourage emotionalism. All our worries stem from the unsolved ethnic problems. All our pains stem from the victims of the earthquake, the refugees, and people who have lost their relatives and kin, their homes, their jobs, and their serenity. It is our duty to give them solace and to help them to return, as soon as possible, to a normal way of life, and to reconstruct cities and villages that have been wiped off the face of this earth. Complete peace is necessary in order to achieve these tasks. It is time to end the foolish and dangerous conflict. Good neighborliness is the only thing that can ensure the existence of our two peoples.

Discusses Moscow Meeting

NC0309113289 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] When the members and candidate members of the Armenian and Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureaus met in Moscow, an ARMENPRES correspondent interviewed Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

The meeting was significant because it was the first time a dialogue was actually started on such a level between the two sides, it was pointed out in the interview. Of course there were serious differences of opinion. But the members and candidate members of the two republics' Communist Party Central Committee Bureaus agreed on the fact that despite all the complications in regional interethnic relations, there is no problem for which a solution cannot be found through joint (?cooperation), which will be in the full interests of the two peoples' destinies.

The Armenian representatives decisively stated our positions on all those issues affecting the people today. Our stand on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] was clearly and uniformly expressed during the session of the USSR Soviet of People's Deputies. That stand expresses the will of our people, and we stated that we do not intend to deviate from that.

Meanwhile, we will seek ways toward a (?dialogue) and toward an interethnic reconciliation, and we will do everything we can to end the interethnic hostility so that normal relations can be established between the Azerbaijani and Armenian peoples.

As far as NKAO issues are concerned, as (?shown by) the issues that (?were propounded), these are not serious and were [words indistinct] by us.

Unfortunately this problem, outlined the first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, has existed for a long time and has historic roots that have had their effects on ethnic consciousness. The decision to include the NKAO within the structure of Azerbaijan in the early twenties was considered by the Armenian people as proof of ethnic injustice. The solution to that problem is (?linked) with two legal principles—the peoples' right of self-determination and the impossibility of changing the republic's boundaries without their agreement. But the right of self-determination of nations is the highest, most significant, and most ethical principle of all our principles. That was a principle which was defended by Lenin early this century, Suren Arutyunyan pointed out.

The representatives of Armenia unanimously expressed the view that any study of the issues pertaining to Artsakh should unconditionally take place with the participation of the NKAO's deputies.

Appeals for Understanding

LD0109203389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Tension is not subsiding in Armenia, tension caused by the Nagorno-Karabakh problem. Let us see what our correspondent, Koryun Khumaryan, has to report:

[Khumaryan] For some weeks now in Yerevan's main square, right beside the pedestal of the Vladimir Ilyich Lenin Monument, a tent has been set up by refugees from Baku and other towns and villages in neighboring Azerbaijan who are holding a sit-down strike. In the border areas between the two republics there has been an increasing number of instances of cattle-rustling and shooting between Azerbaijani and Armenian shepherds, often ending in tragedy. In effect, Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia now are linked only by air, which, of course, is insufficient to guarantee not only the growing economic contacts, but also people's natural desire to communicate with one another, with their relatives, friends, and comrades. Armenian television has broadcast a speech by Suren Gurgenovich Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, who said, in part:

[Begin Arutyunyan recording in Armenian with superimposed Russian translation by Khumaryan] Hatred and enmity are an endless and trying road into a desert leading nowhere. In our deeds and plans we must proceed from the fact that the two Soviet peoples are fated to live side by side. The peoples can and must come to an agreement. I appeal to the communists and all working people of the republic, to the intelligentsia, to veterans, women, and young people, to action groups and movements: In the name of the Armenian people's aspirations, let us seek and find sensible ways to mutual understanding between the two peoples, let us build bridges across the abyss of interethnic dissent. [end recording]

Azerbaijani, Armenian Party Leaders Meet

LD0209105489 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0104 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] A meeting of the members and candidate members of the Communist Party's of Azerbaijan and Armenia Central Committees has been held at the CPSU Central Committee. The situation which has come about in the region, was discussed. Deep anxiety was expressed about the state of relations between the republics and it was pointed out that these relations have assumed a dangerous nature and create the fear of deepening interethnic conflict.

The economic relations of the republics have deteriorated. Roads are being closed. Problems of (?grains), [words indistinct] of tens of thousands of people, sufferings from deprivation have created a special feeling of anxiety. The fact that a constructive dialogue has not been carried out between the two republics during the whole period does not benefit the peoples. It does not help to solve problems.

During the exchange of views, an agreement was reached. First of all, through the efforts of the party and Soviet organizations and public organizations of both republics, all measures must be taken to eliminate one by one the problems which have piled up. Beginning with the central committees of the communist parties of the republics down to work collectives, dialogues must be carried out at all levels. Traditional relations must be restored in all aspects of social, political, and cultural life. (?And above all), the safety of every family and every person must be maintained.

The participants at the meeting focused great attention on the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh. In their view, this problem can only be solved within the limits of the constitution and democracy. In the (?opinion) of the bureau members of the communist parties of both republics' central committees, regardless of the complexity of interethnic relations in the region, there is no problem which cannot be solved in the conditions of mutual patience and through showing deep interest in the destiny of both frateral peoples. Participating in the meeting were [two names indistinct], members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee.

Leaders Discuss Relations

LD0109143689 Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—By TASS Writer Aleksey Lvov:

It takes a long and arduous path for the peoples of the two neighbouring Soviet republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan to restore normal relations.

Communists and all sober-minded inhabitants of this region oppose the strife that goes against the interests of both Armenians and Azerbaijanis and the heightening of tensions around outstanding problems.

The past week witnessed an event that, in the opinion of many, may help normalise the situation in Transcaucasia. This event was a meeting at the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's headquarters between Azerbaijani and Armenian Central Committee Bureau members.

In discussing the situation in the region, they expressed profound concern over the state of relations between the two republics, which have acquired a dangerous character and harbour a threat of the deepening of the inter-ethnic conflict.

Economic ties between Armenia and Azerbaijan are being disrupted, railways and highways are blocked.

Of special concern is the plight of refugees from both sides and discomfort that is felt by tens of thousands of people.

The absence of communications between the two republics for a long time neither benefits their peoples nor facilitates the solution of problems.

In a broad exchange of views the two republics, primarily their party, government and public organisations, decided to do everything to remove overdue issues and conduct dialogue at all levels—from the Central Committees of the two republican communist parties to work collectives, and restore traditional ties in all directions of socio-political, economic and cultural life.

The most important thing is to ensure the safety of each family, each person.

The meeting's participants paid much attention to the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh, which, in their opinion, can be resolved only on a constitutional, democratic basis.

Commenting on the Moscow meeting, Armenian Communist Party Chief Suren Arutyunyan said in his televised address that the dialogue, no matter how difficult it might be, would help the two republics to break out of the crisis.

Despite existing difficulties in inter-ethnic relations, Transcaucasia displays examples of genuine respect for the culture and traditions of all, even small, ethnic groups.

The Azerbaijani Academy of Sciences has just brought out a Udi- Azerbaijani-Russian dictionary. A mere 10,000 people belonging to the Udi ethnic group living in the republic speak the language.

As processes of democratisation are unfolding, the Udi people, an ancient race mentioned by Herodotus and Strabo, are beginning to feel their national identity and get more interested in their cultural heritage.

The latest work by Azerbaijani philologists attests to keen attention to the aspiration of the Udi people.

Aid from all parts of the country is continuing to arrive to the Armenian survivors of the disastrous quake last December.

Extensive housing, consumer service and industrial construction is under way in the republic, uniting forces of all ministries and departments and all union republics.

Representatives of other nations are taking part in the noble action. A school building for 850 pupils is being built in Spitak that was literally swept away from the face of the earth.

The school is a gift from trade unions in Czechoslovakia.

Swiss engineers have started assembling a diagnostic centre in Leninakan. The centre and hospital to be built there soon will form a health-building complex donated by the Catholic charity Caritas.

Reports of the unending flow of humanitarian aid are continuing to arrive.

Azerbaijan Declares NKAO Congress Illegal

LD0209133989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1255 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Baku, 2 Sep [TASS]—The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] has made a decision. It says that a so-called "congress of plenipotentiary representatives of the population of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]" has taken place in Stepanakert, which has stated its refusal to recognize the status of Nargorno-Karabakh as an autonomous oblast within the Azerbaijani SSR, and which proclaimed the oblast "an independent union territory," on which the Azerbaijani SSR Constitution and other republican laws are null and void. Representatives of the Azerbaijanis and other nationalities residing in the oblasts have not taken part in the proceedings of the "congress" [TASS quotes]. The "congress" has set up a "national council," declared to be the sole body that exercises people's power in the NKAO, something that, in effect, is an attempt to deprive the Special Administration Committee of its authority.

The decision emphasizes all this, as well as that the unprecedented declaration on the transfer of all power in the NKAO to the "national council," encroaches on the authority of the state and is unconstitutional.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijani SSR has resolved to regard as illegal any decisions of the so-called "congress," and as unconstitutional the creatin of the "national council" of this kind in the NKAO. It was considered essential to bring to the notice of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet that the "congress" had sometimes branded as illegal the Committee for the Special Administration of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, which was founded by a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet dated 12 January 1989.

Armenian Party Aktiv Discusses Interethnic Tension

LD0409143489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] A meeting of the party aktiv of Armenia was held in Yerevan today. [4 Sep] It discussed urgent measures for normalizing the situation in the region caused by interethnic tensions.

Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, briefed the meeting on the results of the recent meeting at the CPSU Central Committee of members and candidate members of the bureaus of the Central Committees of the communist parties of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Armenian Council of Ministers Discusses Emigration

NC0409113289 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 3 Sep 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] KOMMUNIST writes that the Armenian Council of Ministers discussed the emigration of Armenians and Azerbaijanis. This was in view of the CPSU Central Committee meeting between the Azerbaijan and Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureaus members and candidate members.

Ministers, heads of institutions and organizations, and members of the (?voluntary) group for the immigrants from Azerbaijan were invited to the discussion, which was chaired by Vladimir Markaryants, Chairman of the Armenian Council of Ministers.

Participants heard a report from Vladimir Movsisyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian Council of Ministers and head of the Armenian Supreme Soviet's commission for refugee affairs, on solutions for problems in creating normal conditions for the republic's new citizens.

Organizing employment and housing for the refugees, compensating citizens' damaged possessions, and other social problems were studied.

Vladimir Markaryants, chairman of the Armenian Council of Ministers, spoke at the meeting. He touched on the exchange of views during the meeting at the CPSU Central Committee and the discussions on the Soviet Council of Ministers on this topic. He also discussed the agreement between the leaders of the two republics whose major concern is to create the necessary conditions for solving accumulated problems and ensuring the security of each and every family and individual.

The republic's relevant organizations and foundations have been told to solve problems as quickly as possible.

'Acute Debates' Noted at Moldavian Supreme Soviet

LD0109193689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1755 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Kishinev, 1 Sep (TASS)—Today the session of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet ended with the passing of a law "On the functioning of languages on the territory of the Moldavian SSR" and a decision on the order for implementing that document. The session charged the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium with creating a commission to study the socio-political atmosphere in the republic and the reasons for its aggravation.

S.K. Grossu, first secretary of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the concluding session.

Today was the 4th day of the session, a session planned to last 2 days. The adoption yesterday of the laws "On the return of the Latin alphabet to the Moldavian Language," and "On the status of the state language of the Moldavian SSR" took place in a businesslike atmosphere and did not evoke controversies among the deputies. However, the voting on the articles of the draft law "On the functioning of languages on the territory of the Moldavian SSR" was accompanied by acute debates.

M. Chimpoy, a USSR people's deputy, took the rostrum and made a statement that allegedly, books in the Moldavian language are being burned in Tiraspol. He demanded that a commission be created to investigate this act of vandalism. Later, however, he admitted that this information does not correspond to reality. The deputies from Tiraspol at some point left the hall, and the Presidium convinced them only with difficulty of the necessity of returning and taking part in the discussion of documents.

Several thousand people gathered in front of the theater building where the session took place. This demonstration quite evidently had the purpose of exerting pressure on the deputies.

Meanwhile, strikes are continuing at certain enterprises in Moldavia. As P. Skripchenko, cochairman of the republican strike committee has reported, 202 enterprises in Kishinev, Tiraspol, Bendery, Chadyr-Lungi, Rybnitsa, Dubossar, Komrat, and other cities and population points of the republic are striking. The strikers are demanding the creation of an extraordinary commission by the USSR Supreme Soviet, which would look into the difficulties which have emerged as a matter of urgency.

Session Continues

PM0109162989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 First Edition p 3

[Special correspondent A. Pasechnik report: "Debates Drag on"]

[Excerpts] The Moldavian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet session is into its 4th day, instead of the scheduled 2. As we have already reported, draft laws relating to language have been submitted for its examination. Stormy, I would even say acrimonious, debates are going on around every article and point and the amendments submitted by deputies in the course of the discussion of the laws.

Frenzied arguments broke out, for example, during the voting on amendments to the draft law "On the Functioning of Languages on the Territory of the Moldavian SSR," particularly the part relating to the use of Moldavian in the state and economic spheres and official correspondence. After 1400 hours—when I am sending this report during a short recess—voting will begin on only Article 12 of the law. There are more than 30 altogether... [passage omitted]

The situation is heated, it must be said. Both inside the auditorium of the Moldavian Opera and Ballet Theater where the session is being held—and where, unfortunately, a clear demarcation between deputies along ethnic lines has been perceptible—and outside too. There is no letup in the constant rallies outside the building itself. The wave of strikes is not abating. All this cannot fail to affect the deputies, of course, who are so in need of both statesmanship and simple restraint at this time.

Will the session end today? We will evidently only know late in the evening.

Language Law Protests Continue in Moldavia

LD0309200189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The session of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet, which did not give Russian the status of state language alongside Moldavian, something that was demanded by 40 percent of the Russian-speaking population, including the Gagauz people living in the south of the republic, has not calmed the republic's inhabitants.

[Correspondent I. Petkov] The situation has not eased in Kishinev or other towns in Moldavia over the weekend. Rallies were held toward evening again today in Tiraspol, Beltsy, Bendery, and Rybnitsa. Many railway stations are again not letting goods through, and it is also unclear whether collectives of the almost 200 industrial enterprises of the republic, many of which have been on strike for almost 2 weeks, will turn up for work tomorrow. Komrat, a center around which around approximately 50,000 Gagauz, who are demanding their own autonomy, live compactly, also has joined the strikers. We took these shots at the first congress of the Gagauz-Khalky, the Gagauz people. [Video shows street scenes, gatherings and demonstrations, congress proceeding]

[S.V. Grozdev, USSR people's deputy—identified by screen caption] It was very heartening, let me say again, very heartening to hear the speeches by comrades today which did not express feelings of dependence, so to speak. People spoke not only about the superstructure, so to speak, in order to form some kind of republic. People spoke more about the basis; about the most important thing, about economic development, about the paths of economic development of this land, of the people, and about social problems. Undoubtedly, of course, they see autonomization as one such path as far as I can understand.

200 Enterprises Continue Strikes

LD0409114189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1114 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Kishinev, 4 Sep (TASS)—Some 200 of Moldavia's enterprises and organizations have decided to continue their strikes. This information was received today from various cities of this Soviet republic in the southwest of the USSR. The language laws passed at last week's session of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet have not satisfied their demands. In the opinion of the majority of the strikers, the compromise solutions that have supplemented the draft laws do not settle the fundamental question of real equality of rights for the various language groups.

"We recognize that the functions of the Moldavian language up to the present time had been illegally restricted. However, that does not mean that now the Russian language should be "curtailed" in the republic," a TASS correspondent was told by Petr Denisenko, co-chairman of the united strike committee. "We agree to actively master the language of the majority of the republic's population, but only provided that guarantees will be given to those who want to continue using Russian in their work and social activity."

The draft laws adopted have been widely discussed on the off-days in many cities of Moldavia. In Tiraspol on Sunday evening there was a meeting of many thousands, at which speeches were made by the leaders of the republic. Those attending the meeting disputed their conclusions in defense of the language laws. Representatives of striking collectives again repeated their demands to conduct a nationwide, open discussion of the problems of language and nationalities policy. They agree to negotiate only with the Supreme Soviet commission which has started work in Moldavia.

More on Strikes

PM0109181889 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by unnamed "our correspondent" under the rubric "Interethnic Relations: We Monitor Events" and the general heading "Seeking Paths to Mutual Understanding": "Moldavia: The Strikes Continue"]

[Text] Kishinev—Heavy rain has come in Moldavia. The heat has declined, but the fever of passions aroused by the discussion at the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet session of the draft laws on languages has not abated. Wherever you go—to a store, to the post office, to a plant—everywhere people are talking about the situation in the republic. Attention is now centered, for instance, on the proposal put forward at the session yesterday by Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary S. Grossu on amending the formulation of certain articles in the draft laws under examination. I will cite one of the proposed formulations: The Moldavian SSR ensures on its territory the conditions for the development and use of the Russian language as the language of interethnic communication, and also of the native languages of the population of other nationalities.

"People received this proposal with understanding," G. Kalinovskiy, a lathe operator at the Kotovskiy plant, said.

Meanwhile, the number of enterprises that have stopped work is increasing.

To clarify the situation, I went to the "Mezon" Production Association. I talked with V. Karagyaur, chief of the economic planning department and deputy chairman of the strike committee.

"At our enterprise, there are people of 22 nationalities," Vitaliy Georgiyevich said. "They were living harmoniously. And then someone decided to sow discord in our ranks. Now the plant is on strike, but not fully. About 25-30 percent of workers are at work, mainly Moldavians. Rumors are being spread in the mass media that the leaders of enterprises have acted as strike organizers. That is not true. All the initiative came from below."

In Kishinev alone 18 enterprises have now partially or entirely stopped work. In the republic as a whole, as the newspaper MOLODEZH MOLDAVII reported, more than 200 enterprises and organizations are on strike.

The airport has joined the strike. A decision was adopted to close the deputies' complex here, deprive the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic Council of Ministers and Supreme Soviet Presidium of their special reservations, abolish VIP servicing of flights (the special servicing of government flights), and stop all freight shipments and air ticket sales. At the same time, the airport strike committee is helping old people, passengers with children, and so forth.

I also visited the "Moldavgidromash" Plant—one of the republic's oldest enterprises. Its output is exported to 55 countries worldwide. The labor collective here does not support the strikers.

"Much publicity work was done with people," chief engineer S. Pritula said. "Everyone realized that political questions cannot be resolved by a strike. A day's lost work is a blow not only against the state's pockets, but against the workers' own. Of course the language problem worries us. Moldavian should be the state language, but to that end it is necessary to provide the Russian-speaking population with the necessary conditions and base for the full study of the language. Russian should be enshrined in law as the language of interethnic communication. That is what many workers think and believe."

"What next?" I was asked that question by V. Kartashevskiy, chief of a section at a branch of the "Tsentrosoyuzproyekt" Institute. "I am in Moldavia on assignment from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic State Planning Committee, under which our institute comes. I have lived here for more than a year. My child was at kindergarten. Now the chief of the Zavtur kindergarten says that we must not bring the child any more. They will now have children who speak Moldavian...."

As you can see, a complex situation is developing. Everyone is waiting for the end of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet session, where heated debates are now in their 3d day.

Trains at a Standstill

LD0409195489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Report over video by correspondent I. Petkov, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Petkov] Very calm people who are in love with the town and the Dnestr live here [in Kishinev]. They carefully preserve monuments, like this one to Pushkin who visited the place during his exile in the south. [video shows street scenes, the Dnestr river, the monument to Pushkin] Or this one, a steam locomotive which has found its eternal stand in memory of the railwaymen of Bendery who stirred the town into rebellion against the boyard-Romanian occupationists in 1919, to join the kray—as had been the situation since the liberation from the Turks—to the eastern brothers, to the Soviet country. History resolved that the steam locomotive should stand here. [video shows the steam locomotive]

But why are these trains at a standstill, obstructing all the rail tracks today? [video shows freight trains standing idle] Enterprises in Bendery, Tiraspol, Rybnitsa, Komrat, and many enterprises in Kishinev have been on strike for nearly 2 weeks. As many as 18,000 rail cars have been standing idle at the stations, freight has been accumulating, and apples and tomatoes are going bad. And not only this. [video shows truck-loads of apples]

At today's rally in Bendery, it was announced that coupons for detergents have been introduced. Meanwhile, freight trains with the most necessary items, the very same soap, which is not produced locally, have stopped at Moldavia's border because they have been refused entry. The famous silk textiles from Bendery, precise electrical instruments from Kishinev, or smelting equipment from Tiraspol are not being despatched, while the partners are waiting in all corners of the country. The tens of millions of rubles-worth of production that has not been supplied daily are becoming a weighty burden for the Moldavian economy which has been weakened anyway. Recognition of the state status of the Moldavian language and the Russian language, along with the Moldavian language as a language for interethnic communication in the republic, should have eased the situation, in the opinion of many people. Why then, are there rallies and strikes again? In connection with the situation in the republic, a commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet is arriving in Kishinev late this evening. [video shows a rally in progress]

Commission Set Up To Study Moldavian Situation

LD0209184889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1700 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 2 Sep (TASS)—It has been announced today that the USSR Supreme Soviet has set up a commission to study on the spot the socio-political situation in the Soviet republic of Moldavia. It has been set up following a demand from the Republican Strike Committee in Moldavia, where strikes are continuing.

Many enterprises in Kishinev, Tiraspol, Bendery, Chadyr-Lunga, Rybnitsa, Dubossary, Komrat, and other towns and population centers in the republic are on strike.

The strikes began while the draft laws on languages were being discussed, when several of their clauses were described by the non- indigenous population as discriminatory. The strikers are not against the Moldavian language being revived. But they stress that this must not come about through an encroachment on the rights of the members of other peoples who live on the territory of Moldavia.

MVD Troops Unearth Concealed Arms in Abkhaziya

PM0109151789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by A. Lezvin: "'Holiday Season' on Lake Ritsa"]

[Excerpts] The task of the four "copters" that went off this morning to the areas of Kutyko, Avadkhar resort, and Kamenistaya Polyana is to comb the area. Their aim is to seek weapons dumps. The internal troops subunit was already aware that weapons are stockpiled in caves and secret caches.... [Passage omitted].

"At the very beginning of the Abkhaz events," Lieutenant Colonel Petr Voloshin said, "56 submachineguns, 40 Makarov pistols, 33 small-caliber rifles, and 3 Degtyarev light machineguns were stolen from internal affairs departments and paramilitary security forces...."

Voloshin continued the list, summing up the result—a total of 187 rifled weapons stolen....

In 3 days alone 7 Kalashnikov improved assault rifles, 10 Makarov pistols, and 18 carbines were confiscated by the internal troops.... Also on the list—216 kg of explosives. Of these, 110 kg by the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs Internal Troops Tbilisi subunit, where Voloshin serves. Also on the list—live grenades, antitank and other mines...

The search for concealed weapons continues.

Situation in Western Republics Viewed

LD0309144489 Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 3 TASS—By TASS commentator Vladimir Valentinov:

In the three western republics of the Soviet Union—Belorussia, Moldavia and the Ukraine—the readings of the political barometer did not indicate calm weather in the past week.

The situation in Moldavia was more acute than in the other two republics. Moldavia's Supreme Soviet these days adopted a package of the republic's laws on languages. Some of the provisions of these documents became the cause of strikes of the republic's non-native population which regards these documents as discriminatory. The strikes continue to this day.

The session of Moldavia's parliament which lasted for four days instead of the planned two ended on Friday by the adoption of the law regulating the functions of languages in the Moldavian territory. While there were no differences among deputies on the laws on the resumption of the use of Latin script in the Moldavian language and on the status of official language of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic, there have been acute debates on separate articles of the latter draft law.

Deputies from Tiraspol where non-Moldavians form a considerable part of the population walked out of the meeting at one point, and it was with difficulty that the Presidium persuaded them to return and take part in the document's debating. Several thousand people gathered in front of the building where the session was held. It is absolutely obvious that that demonstration was aimed at bringing pressure on deputies.

The situation in Moldavia remains tense. On the demand of the republic's strike committee the USSR Supreme Soviet announced on Saturday the forming of a commission to study the socio-political situation in the republic.

Processes of law-making proceed stormily also in the Ukraine. Draft laws on the election of people's deputies of the republic and election to local soviets are in the focus of attention. Members of the 'Inter-Regional' Group of USSR People's Deputies from the Ukraine opposed the documents of the Presidium of the Ukraine's Supreme Soviet with their own alternative draft.

The authors of alternative draft documents regard the draft laws proposed by the Presidium undemocratic. They, specifically, suggest direct elections of parliament and president of the Ukraine, and to abrogation of elections of deputies from public organisations. A sanctioned meeting was held on saturday in the Ukrainian capital Kiev to discuss these documents. Many thousands participated in this meeting where calls were made for soberly assessing the situation, for restraint and a constructive dialogue.

Anatoliy Korniyenko, first secretary of the Kiev regional committee of the party, told the meeting there is a kernel of good sense in the draft of the "Inter-Regional Group". He, specifically, went along with the opinion about the need to abrogate elections of deputies from public organisations. There were proposals to draft a new version of laws which would combine everything valuable contained in the proposals of the presidium and in the alternative draft.

In Belorussia, the attention of the public focussed on problems of the development of the republic's economic independence, solution of ecological problems, which aggravated particularly in connection with the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. But all this has not eclipsed the most important problem for the entire humanity, that of safeguarding peace. In Belorussia which lost almost a quarter of its population during the Second World War, September 1, the day of the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War, saw numerous actions in which calls were made to prevent the repitition of horrors of war.

Ukraine Rally Urges Democratic Elections

LD0209142589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] As our correspondent has reported, a rally of many thousands of people took place in Kiev today in the square in front of the republican stadium. USSR people's deputies, representatives of party and local Soviet bodies as well as activists from the Ukrainian People's Movement for Perestroyka [Narodnoye Dvizheniye Ukrainy Za Perestroyku] spoke at it.

The main slogan of the rally was to urge democratic elections. The overwhelming majority of those assembled sharply criticized the draft law on the elections of the people's deputies of the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Repubic] presented by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the republic and published in the press. But several virtues of the draft were also noted, particularly the fact that in it there is no discrimination between voters on a nationality or territorial basis.

The deputies who spoke at the rally expounded the main provisions of their own new alternative draft law, which it has been decided to submit on Monday to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR.

Further on Rally

LD0209194889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1730 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Kiev, 2 Sep (TASS)—TASS Correspondent Aleksey Petruna reports: A sanctioned meeting, attended by thousands of people, which took place in the capital of the Ukraine today, was devoted to discussing republican draft laws on elections of people's deputies of the republic and elections to local soviets.

Members of the "Interregional Group" of USSR people's deputies from the Ukraine presented an alternative draft of these documents at the meeting. This differed from the one proposed by the Presidium of the supreme Soviet of the republic. It has been decided to convey the alternative draft, in which the final punctuation was added only during the night, to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine.

USSR People's Deputies Valeriy Grishchuk, Vladimir Chernyak, Vladimir Yavorivskiy, and others who spoke at the meeting, consider that the draft laws proposed by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR are undemocratic. In particular they have proposed direct elections of the Supreme Soviet (the parliament) and of the president of the Ukraine, the abolition of the elections from public organizations and a number of other provisions.

Anatoliy Korniyenko, first secretary of the Kiev City Committee of the party, who spoke, noted that the draft of the "Interregional Group" contained a rational core. In particular he supported the idea of the need to abolish elections from public organizations. It was proposed that a new version of the draft laws should be created, bringing together everything of value contained both in what was proposed by the Presidium and in the alternative.

Calls for the situation to be considered in a sober manner, for self-control, and for a striving toward constructive dialogue were heard at the meeting.

Deputies Comment on Draft Laws

LD0209163189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] [Announcer] Let us return to Kiev where there was a rally in the square in front of the republican stadium attended by thousands of people today, with the slogan For Democratic Elections! Over to our Kiev correspondent Vladimir Lyaskov.

[Lyaskov] The new draft laws are three documents on changes and additions to the constitution, on election of people's deputies of the republic, and on election of people's deputies to local soviets. Among the authors and initiators of the draft are deputies Chernyak, (Yavorivskiy), Yevtushenko, Saunin, Grishchuk, Ryabchenko, and others. I asked people's deputies of the USSR Vladimir Kirillovich Chernyak and (Vladimir Aleksandrovich Yavorivskiy) to sum up the main tenets of their draft:

[Begin recording] [Chernyak] The current published draft law is in its own way complete and connected and we do not believe that mechanically exchanging one article for another will improve it substantively. Therefore we turned to the idea of an alternative draft law on elections. The basic principles set out in this draft are:

1. One person, one vote, without representation for public organizations.

2. Elections on a basis of choice—more candidates than seats. The current draft law contains a piece of political cunning. It says that any number of candidates can be put forward for deputies, but there is no clear registration of the fact that there must be at least two or three candidate deputies on the voting slip, and therefore you can always find a far flung rural constituency where a single candidate deputy can get in.

3. The inadmissibility influencing constituency commissions on the formation of the (?block) of deputy candidates. The current draft law gives the constituency commissions extraordinary powers. We are against this.

4. Direct proportional elections to the republic Supreme Soviet.

5. Direct election of the president of the republic.

6. We consider that this draft law must be published, and we consider that the law must be adopted by means of a referendum. That is to say, it is the people who must be the author of the draft law, and not the apparatus, and it is also the people who should adopt it. What the people say, let that be how it is. That is our position.

[(Yavorivskiy)] Each document is born of some political situation or other. One must not ignore the mood of the people who adopt it. It was adopted at our republican deputies' club. It was not a simple matter to get it adopted. There were several alternatives to the decision we adopted, and there was not complete unanimity here either. After all, the people's deputies of the USSR are also people, and each of us also still has some crumbs of fear. They are there. That is true. So we already, for ourselves chose some sort of barrier, beyond which we cannot go, but I still want to believe that of course there will not be any strikes, that common sense will triumph after all.

[Chernyak] We are not calling for strikes, barricades, and blood, but we realize that a democratization of the electoral system and perestroyka as a whole are possible only through struggle. [end recording]

Ukraine Popular Front To Hold Constituent Meeting

*LD0209083689 Moscow World Service in English
0700 GMT 2 Sep 89*

[Text] The constituent conference of the regional organization of the Ukrainian Popular Front in support of perestroyka will begin later today in Kharkov. Taking part will be members of practically all non-formal associations of the Kharkov region. One of the main goals of the organization is to dismantle the command and administer [as heard] system of management and establish real democracy.

Vlasov Discusses RSFSR Ethnic Issues

*PM0209191889 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
2 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 3*

[Interview with A.V. Vlasov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers, by IZVESTIYA special correspondent Leonid Shinkarev, under the rubric "The Nationalities Question: Policy and Practice": "Russia's Interests"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Shinkarev] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, it has not gone unnoticed by our readers that the draft CPSU platform "The Party's Nationalities Policy in Present Conditions" gives concrete expression only to provisions concerning the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]. While realizing that this is a multinational republic where half the country's population lives and where the state structure has long needed renewing, the writers of letters, especially from the union republics, are worried as to whether this special attention is a veiled form of the traditional recognition of Russia's former role as "elder brother" or "first among equals."

[Vlasov] This is the first time I have given IZVESTIYA an interview in my capacity as chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and I am very sorry to have to begin by disagreeing. The draft platform does not so much as hint at the exclusivity of any section of the Soviet federation. I will say more: I cannot recall any other document that so clearly formulates, in the light of our realities and the world experience accumulated by the late 20th century, the principles of actual equality for all peoples within the Union. By providing for the renunciation of obsolete forms of national state structure and the quest for new structures to accelerate social development, the platform constitutes one of the most important sections of the general concept of perestroyka.

The special discussion of Russia's legal status and structures is not prompted solely by the federation's consolidating role within the Union, but by the real difference between it and the other republics. More than 100 nations, ethnic entities, and national groups have come together under one roof, over a vast area. They live in dissimilar natural conditions, with different ways of life, they worship, so to speak, their own gods, and the tension between some of them has its roots deep in history. The administrative edict system, with its preference for strong-arm solutions to problems, exacerbated the deformations in social relations. They were further aggravated in the times of stagnation, when Russian people went away to Siberia and the Baltic region to make up for the manpower shortage there, and the indigenous inhabitants of neighboring autonomous national formations moved into the abandoned lands, the empty, deserted villages of Central Russia.

The difficulties were exacerbated by the erosion of the functions of the republican powers. Some of these functions were entrusted to all-union organs of management, which robbed the Russian Federation of many of its own administrative, socioeconomic, and ideological structures such as exist in any other republic. The confusion of the tasks of the federation and the Union restricted the potential for the use of the RSFSR's sovereign rights for the rapid resolution of its own problems.

No other republic is in a situation where in its territory 72 percent of enterprises are under union jurisdiction and only 27 percent under republican jurisdiction. This too is a specific characteristic of ours that complicates economic leadership. Because of considerable differences in the level of the consumption fund in different RSFSR autonomous formations, tension began to arise in interethnic relations. The handover of some union enterprises to Russia's jurisdiction, which has now begun, must be carried out more resolutely.

It is no exaggeration to say that the attention devoted to Russia in the draft party platform has the aim not to give preference to it over others, but only to give it equal rights.

[Shinkarev] It is a mystery to many people how Russia manages to maintain horizontal links with the other union republics, when it lacks a whole series of their state and social structures. The question arises: How, in existing circumstances, would it be possible to dispel the dissatisfaction felt by the people of the RSFSR with the federation's curtailed rights and genuinely strengthen its status?

[Vlasov] The basic approaches are defined in the draft platform. Supporting them and giving them concrete form, we would consider it right to create RSFSR structures in the party (a CPSU Central Committee Bureau or Secretariat for the RSFSR), trade unions (an AUCCTU Secretariat for the RSFSR), and Communist Youth League [Komsomol] (an All-Union Lenin Komsomol Central Committee Bureau for the RSFSR).

In view of the fact that under the Constitution our republic is the only federal state within the Union, we would consider it justified to have two chambers in the highest organ of power—a Soviet of the Republic and a Soviet of Nationalities. The second chamber could be made up of deputies from each autonomous formation, and also from krays, oblasts, and the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, so that the Russian nation would be represented along with the others in the Soviet of Nationalities.

In the interests of harmonizing relations among the nationalities of the RSFSR, I think it makes sense to have an RSFSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Questions of Interethnic Relations.

In order to expand the potential in the ideological sphere, we propose as a first step the creation of a republican information system, including radio and television and new sociopolitical and artistic periodicals. Say what you like, in effect we have only two newspapers that can be regarded as the mouthpiece of Russia. There are many more in the other union republics.

We also see an urgent need to form an RSFSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD], a republican Union of Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, a Russian Society for Relations With Compatriots Abroad (the "Russia" Society), an RSFSR Cinema Workers' Union, and other social organizations, and, of course, an RSFSR Academy of Sciences.

[Shinkarev] Is it clear how the union academy will divide up the institutes with the RSFSR Academy of Sciences?

[Vlasov] Apparently the institutes located mainly in the Urals, Siberia, and the Far East will be handed over to the republican academy. It will probably also make sense to hand over to it certain scientific institutions that are in the capital and are concerned with purely RSFSR problems. For instance, the Russian Language Institute...

The republican academy, bringing together major scientists, will channel their efforts into the study of the RSFSR's specific problems in the sphere of the economy, ecology, resource-saving, culture, and history, as well as complex questions of the development of nations and interethnic relations. It will not duplicate the work of the union academy, but could participate in its fundamental research programs. We hope the RSFSR academy will also become the highest expert council of scientists for the RSFSR Government.

[Shinkarev] The "Russia" Society will presumably widen ties with Russians abroad, promoting, in particular, the return to the Motherland of the creative legacy of our cultural figures who have settled abroad. Does the RSFSR Government propose to keep an eye on the interests of people from the RSFSR living in the union republics?

[Vlasov] It is a principle of the 19th party conference that nationalities living outside their own state territorial formations or not having such formations should receive greater opportunities for realizing their national cultural aspirations. The Russian population, like any other, has a right to this in any union republic.

The problems of people from the RSFSR living outside the RSFSR are a subject of concern for the republics in which they live and for the union organs. We will inform the Russian-speaking population of the whole country about affairs in our federation, making use of the radio and television channel GOVORIT I POKAZYVAYET SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, which is being set up. It will also help us to communicate to everyone the RSFSR's position on the situations arising in the course of perestroyka processes.

The problems of national languages remain complex. The mechanism for resolving them requires profound study and broad, nationwide discussion. In my view, attempts to boost the prestige of one language at the expense of others should be rejected. We need a law on the free development and equal use by all citizens of their native languages. Great harm could be done to society if Russian as the language of interethnic communication begins to disappear from the traditionally good relations between the fraternal republics.

I must say that we are also concerned about language problems in national formations in the RSFSR. In some places a decline is taking place in the number of people reading, studying, and speaking the native language. The disruption of linguistic continuity, a linguistic gulf between generations, causes great distress to people who are concerned about the preservation and development of national cultures. We must do serious work to remedy this situation.

[Shinkarev] I keep thinking about the new republican structures you mentioned, and I cannot help wondering, are we about to witness another explosion of the apparatus and a growth in the body of civil servants?

[Vlasov] That would be quite likely if we left the existing administrative apparatus untouched. But we intend to reduce the number of ministries, simplify the existing structures, and provide scope for democratic self-management. We are prompted to do this by the new economic mechanism, which demands a clear delimitation of functions between the state and economic apparatus. Clearly some departments will be turned into economically accountable associations (concerns) for support in the sectors of technical progress.

There is another worrying trend: Not centrally, but locally, in the grass-roots components, an unrestrained growth in the number of administrators can be observed. The republic's transition to full economic accountability will guard against this. At the Supreme Soviet session, as you know, the Russian Federation was criticized for the unhurried pace of its preparations for the transition...

[Shinkarev] Forgive me, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, I also do not understand why other republics have forged ahead... After all, the RSFSR has an incomparably larger scientific, economic, and technical potential than any union republic, perhaps larger even than all of them put together.

[Vlasov] The point is that the siting, level of development, and nature of the federation's production forces require the use of numerous models of economic accountability relations. We are having to develop several types of models at once as the basic models for application in regions with more or less similar conditions. The basic principles of the development of economic accountability are aimed at ensuring the republic's economic sovereignty within the system of the country's integrated national economic complex.

We have identified highly developed regions where a good local budget can be formed even today. The pattern for these will be set by the model for the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] and Sverdlovsk Oblast. Here the transition to the principles of regional economic accountability is already beginning. Materials are being submitted for discussion by Stavropol and Krasnodar Krays, Moscow, Kuybyshev, Kemerovo, Tomsk, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts. Some of them will switch over to economic accountability in 1990.

Magadan, Kamchatka, Yakutia, Tuva, Tyumen, and all our northern territories are another matter. The mining industry that predominates here, requiring enormous expenditure, means that these localities are doomed to depend on subsidy. The economic accountability model for them should be based first and foremost on economically justified prices and special normatives in forming the budget. Is it fair that the prices set for the output of the fuel and energy complex are patently too low, while it is maintained virtually on subsidies? This is the whole federation's problem.

[Shinkarev] But if Russia has a monopoly of many types of resources, what is stopping it from changing the price correlation for output from the extraction and processing sectors, so as to come closer to world price structures on the domestic market?

[Vlasov] If you look at it like that, it is true that today, because of these disproportions, Russia receives in exchanges with the other republics R70 billion too little in national income measured in world prices, or R10 billion at the prices that exist in the country. But I do not think you can look at it like that.

We come back to the fundamental principle: What should be the purpose of territorial economic accountability—to strengthen the Union's integrated economic complex, or to isolate territories by turning them into closed systems? I think we should take into account first and foremost the interests of the country as a whole. And the center should ensure fair exchanges between the union republics not through the directive and distributive mechanism, but through commodity-money relations. At the moment the total income contributed by the Russian Federation to the union budget is far in excess of the expenditure on the republic's economic and social needs.

Equivalence in commodity exchanges between union republics is a very important condition of the development of territorial economic accountability in the Russian Federation, where a large part of the region lies in northern latitudes, where there is a high concentration of raw material sectors, and where the export of output to other localities is considerably in excess of imports. Leveling out the economic management conditions for Russia and the other union republics requires a compensation mechanism based on an improved normative base. Then the profitability of the fuel and energy complex will cease to be only one-third of the level in light industry. It is necessary to foresee all the consequences of the switch to economic accountability and exclude parochialism, regional egotism, and any phenomena that could complicate interethnic relations or damage the unity of our state.

[Shinkarev] The party platform envisages a switch to management by large regions for the RSFSR. Should we take this to mean that the territorial divisions will change, and the existing krays and oblasts will be replaced by formations such as territorial production complexes?

[Vlasov] To begin with, we would like to test out a possible amalgamated structure. First, an autonomous Far East economic region could be formed, uniting Maritime and Khabarovsk Krays and Amur, Kamchatka, Magadan, Sakhalin, and Chita Oblasts. The region's development would be managed by an RSFSR Supreme Soviet commission including deputies from the highest organs of power of the Union and the republic from the Far East region. We propose that the commission will have an executive organ headed at the level of a deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. We hope that the regional management mechanism developed here will be used for other economic regions—East Siberia, West Siberia, the Urals, the Center. The krays and oblasts will remain within these regions, but clearly their functions will have to be adjusted.

[Shinkarev] And then perhaps they will have the opportunity to concern themselves to a greater extent than at present with ecological problems—these are of some importance in the tension between ethnic groups living in the same locality who have different ideas on the use of natural resources.

[Vlasov] Certainly. The ecological situation in the RSFSR is further exacerbated by the fact that, with the existing national economic structure, the quantity of unprocessed industrial waste is increasing, gas pollution is intensifying, and agricultural land is dwindling. A total of 37 cities have already been designated critical for the population's life. The departments are continuing their dangerous onslaught on nature in the North, in the places inhabited by numerically small ethnic groups. Matters have gone so far that in the autonomous okrugs of Tyumen Oblast the industrial onslaught has destroyed 11 million hectares of deer pasture, 28 fishing rivers are polluted... Yet this affects the lives of people who are not too well protected by the local authorities. Bringing the management organs closer to the territories will help to resolve many acute problems.

[Shinkarev] I know you grew up at Mysovaya Station in East Siberia. Your peer group included Buryats, Evenks, and Tofalars. And I think it is not only your job that makes you study the future of the numerically small ethnic groups of Siberia, the North, and the Far East. Their disastrous situation has been spoken of publicly for the first time recently. What are the RSFSR Council of Ministers' next steps to alleviate their lot?

[Vlasov] Our common grief... The intensive industrial assimilation of regions where indigenous ethnic groups have lived from time immemorial has led to a disastrous deterioration in their environment and a decline in traditional trades, and has jeopardized their ability to survive as ethnic groups. And although we have been generous with resolutions along the lines of "Additional Measures to..." and have invested considerable resources in the areas inhabited by the northern peoples, an ill-conceived demographic policy, the large population influx from other parts of the country, and the arbitrary settlement of aborigines in large settlements have been the cause of their profound social alienation.

In 7 years as oblast party committee [obkom] secretary in Yakutia, more than once on tours of the northern regions I observed the unceremoniousness displayed by newcomers, especially petty officials, toward the indigenous population. These new settlers, ignorant of the northern peoples' cultural traditions and sure of their own superiority, allowed themselves to mock what they did not understand. The arrogance of the timeservers who succeeded one another at various levels increased the local inhabitants' sense of apathy and passivity. I could never understand how anyone can agree to work in a national autonomous formation if he does not like the people around him. I am convinced that leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs who are not representatives of the indigenous nationality should learn its language.

We share the concern for the fate of the indigenous northerners that was expressed at the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and in IZVESTIYA and other publications. Members of the republic's government and apparatus workers recently visited all 16 regions inhabited by northern ethnic groups, collecting material for the in-depth formulation of a long-term program for their social and economic development through 2005. We believe it is necessary to enhance the state and legal status of autonomous okrugs, involve the indigenous inhabitants more widely in self-management, and stimulate their activeness.

Our next steps are outlined in the draft platform—to grant local organs of power the exclusive right to the economic exploitation of their territories (to mining areas, pastures, forests, rivers and lakes, and coastal waters) and to the creation of reservation zones where the places of residence of the northern ethnic groups will be restored. We expect much of the forthcoming congress of representatives of indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia, and the Far East, and of the association that will represent their interests at all levels of management.

[Shinkarev] In the thirties there were national rayons, set up on the initiative of the Committee of the North, where aborigines enjoyed special rights. They disappeared in the years of the Stalinist repressions, when they began to build camps in those places and send large numbers of prisoners there...

[Vlasov] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet and Government intend to revive the national rayons. We want to unite in them the ethnic groups that live outside autonomous okrugs. For instance, the Veps in Karelia, the Saami on the Kola Peninsula, the Yukagir on the banks of the Kolyma and its tributaries... These ethnic groups expect real support from society in adapting to the new situations in life. The Eveno-Batanayskiy Rayon has already been set up in Yakutia, the first of those planned.

The desire for national cultural autonomy is now increasing markedly. If this is not noticed and taken into account, it will become hypertrophied and will provide a fertile soil for nationalist and separatist sentiments and lead to an imbalance in our multinational society. In the RSFSR, there are some 30 million representatives of various ethnic groups who do not have their own national formations. National cultural centers could be created for them—wherever they live.

Incidentally, we are severely hampered by the system whereby a union republic, autonomous republic, oblast, and okrug have unequal opportunities to resolve their own national cultural problems. In autonomous republics, budget deductions for culture are much lower than in union republics, although some autonomous republics surpass union republics in terms of economic potential and contribution to the country's budget. Autonomous oblasts and okrugs have even less opportunities. Is not that why people in the national formations feel a certain frustration in their position?

I think it would be justified to transfer rights to autonomous formations in the sphere of culture. Only they should be responsible for the formation of theatrical, musical, and other creative collectives, their financing, and the organization of exchanges with other autonomous formations in the sphere of culture and art. And surely they themselves should finally decide questions of the development of the national theater, teaching, artistic, and musical colleges, museums...

[Shinkarev] About 20 years ago, in Yakutia, I saw how some smart aleck had banned an ensemble of folk musicians [khomusisty], popular among the people, as being "nationalist," offering in their place a quartet of balalaika players as indisputable representatives of "internationalism." The most striking thing was that the bans emanated from a local functionary who was showing vigilance in order to demonstrate his own incorruptible internationalism. Bans of that kind aroused among the Yakut population feelings of ill will toward Russian city dwellers who had nothing to do with it.

[Vlasov] You have touched on a delicate matter. There are, or, I should say, were people who were promoted from among the indigenous population and soon forgot their origins, and who, for the sake of advancement up the official ladder, went so far as to infringe on their fellow countrymen's rights so as to demonstrate their own "loyalty" to the administrative system. But today the national self-awareness of the peoples and those promoted from among them has increased to such a degree that you seldom encounter such a person in the management organs.

The problem lies elsewhere. Indigenous inhabitants, especially those from national minorities, are still too timid in putting themselves forward for leadership posts. One reason, in my view, is that the localities have traditionally lagged behind in training skilled national cadres, while the siting of production forces, by creating jobs, including management posts, stimulated an influx of newcomers who often took key positions in the economic and public life of the autonomous formation. I remember when I went to work in Checheno-Ingushetia I received a letter: You are violating the Leninist nationalities policy. Of the 15 ministers in the republic, 7 are Russians, 8 are Chechens, and there is not a single Ingush. We had attached no significance to this, since there were representatives of both the local peoples in the leadership of the major associations and administrations. But if you think about it, people were right, it was a patent cadre blunder, and we had to rectify the situation. In principle, every nation or ethnic group should be represented in the party, soviet, and social organs of its autonomous formation. I know from my own experience how important it is to everyone if the leaders of the autonomous formation take an interest in the local population's life and their historical and cultural monuments. When, again in Checheno-Ingushetia, we published an anthology of the two peoples' folklore, and soon after Russian-Chechen and Russian-Ingush dictionaries, republican leaders, including those from what we nowadays call the Russian-speaking population, sensed the support and sympathies of the local intelligentsia and the broad masses. The work became easier!

At one time, all the mosques were destroyed in Checheno-Ingushetia. In 1975 there was only the Orthodox church in Groznyy. The party obkom was besieged on all sides: So the Russians have somewhere to worship, but the locals have nowhere? Unjust, indeed... Three years later the first mosque was opened in the capital of the autonomous republic (there are more than 10 of them now). And the more attentiveness was shown, the more trusting the Caucasian population became in relation to the international leadership of the autonomous formation, being confident that they will find understanding and support. It is only logical.

In autonomous formations where "large" ethnic groups live alongside numerically small ones, conflict situations usually arise where living standards are unequal, when one people is surging forward, perhaps not at the expense of the weaker people, but with disregard for its interests and in violation of its national dignity. People write to us from Dagestan about such instances. Something similar can be observed in certain other regions of the North Caucasus. A lack of attention toward these problems leads to outbursts of nationalism and aggressive feelings.

If you even out the peoples' levels of development, it is easier to extinguish the smoldering coals of tension.

[Shinkarev] Have you come across Russophobia, anti-Russian feelings, which certain publications are writing about as the "latest phenomenon" in the social life of the peoples of the Union?

[Vlasov] We have already spoken about that; I know of manifestations of such feelings. In the majority of cases, according to my observations, they arise as a reaction to words or actions offending people's national dignity. And although Russia's role in the development of the regions that used to be called "national outlying districts" is generally acknowledged, certain deformations in mutual relations left a bitter taste in the mouths of the local population. Especially when it was dinned into them that among the equal peoples there is, after all, a "first," and when people had heard from their fathers and grandfathers that czarist Russia took some people under the wing of the state and subjugated others, that Russian merchants deceived their people, that the soldiers suppressed their uprisings... We inherited a difficult history and with it many contradictions inherent in the realities of a multinational state.

In years gone by, tension was fostered by many people's identification of the central power, which committed errors, distortions of policy, and repressive actions, with Russia, which in fact suffered with everyone else as a result of the administrative edict system. The Russian people feel understanding and respect for all the country's nations and ethnic groups, the great-power chauvinism displayed by the extremists of certain informal associations is alien to them. Just as the nationalism and anti-Russian slogans that are put forward in their name by extremists in their republics are alien to other peoples. More and more people are realizing that in the modern world only the economic advance of the whole state through the economic sovereignty of the republics and the development of local self-management will lead to the triumph of the common human values that unite our peoples.

The desire for this is inherited from the best traditions of 19th-century Russian culture, which handed down to our generation the humanist ideas of the unification of peoples, ideas alien to both Russophobia and Russophilia. One observes with sorrow how some of our contemporaries seem to be color-blind in their stubborn refusal to see the difference between patriotism and nationalism.

[Shinkarev] As has rightly been observed: When a man says "my motherland is best of all for me," those are the words of a patriot, but if he says "my motherland is best of all, period," then they call him a nationalist.

[Vlasov] And where the two concepts meet there is the national factor that actually exists in society and influences every aspect of life. It expresses, first and foremost, the interests of social groups that react in their own ways to perestroyka in political and economic life. Depending on the circumstances, this factor can promote progress or act as an obstacle on the path of revolutionary renewal, generate disturbances, and divide people. Along this path, no people has any chance of winning.

The CPSU's proposals on questions of improving interethnic relations outlined steps to overcome today's contradictions. Only together, rejecting national arrogance and intolerance and making our statehood more civilized, will we be able to unite in a family of peoples where there will be no first among equals, but all will be equals among the first.

Uzbek Drafts on Constitution, Elections Published

*PM0109154589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
2 Sep 89 First Edition p 2*

[Correspondent A. Kaipbergenov report: "Draft Laws Published"]

[Text] Tashkent, 1 Sep—The republic press has published draft laws "On Amendments and Additions to the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Constitution (Fundamental Law)," "On Elections of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Deputies," and "On Elections of Uzbek SSR Local Soviet People's Deputies." In conformity with a resolution by the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium, the draft documents will be the subject of nationwide discussion lasting 1 and ½ months.

The authors of the published drafts have rejected a two-tier structure of the supreme organ of state power in Uzbekistan—a Congress of People's Deputies and a Supreme Soviet. It is envisaged retaining the republic's Supreme Soviet, where 500 people's deputies will work. Elections to the Supreme Soviet and local soviets will be held in single-seat electoral okrugs on the basis of universal, equal, and direct suffrage and secret ballot.

The draft laws lay down detailed regulations governing the procedure for the nomination and registration of candidate people's deputies. There are provisions to convene a conference of okrug voters' representatives whenever necessary. There are no limits on the number of candidates submitted for registration.

Attention is attracted by a fundamentally new provision which envisages legal protection in the event a local soviet or electoral commission turning down a proposal to convene a neighborhood voters meeting. It is incumbent upon the people's court to examine any appeal within 5 days, and its decision shall be final.

The draft law "On Elections of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Deputies" reads: "The elections of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet deputies are universal: the right to vote is vested in Uzbek SSR citizens who have reached the age of 18.

"Any citizen of the Uzbek SSR who has reached the age of 18 can be elected an Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet deputy."

"All direct or indirect restrictions on the voting rights of Uzbek SSR citizens depending on origin, social or property status, racial or national affiliation, sex, education, language, attitude toward religion, length of residence in a given locality, or category or nature of occupation are prohibited."

A separate article in the draft law points out that "citizens of other union republics enjoy equal voting rights with citizens of the Uzbek SSR in the territory of the Uzbek SSR."

Yeltsin Recounts Visit to Tajikistan

LD0209173789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, USSR people's deputy and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Construction and Architecture, has been visiting Tajikistan at the invitation of the republic's leadership. Here is a report by our correspondent Muzafar Madzhidov:

[Madzhidov] During his stay in Tajikistan, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin visited the Nurek hydroelectric plant and acquainted himself with the progress in the construction of Sang-Tudinskaya and Pamirskaya hydroelectric power stations. Particular attention was paid to the Rogun hydroelectric plant, over which many disputes have arisen lately. The point is that the plans there provide for the construction of a dam 335 meters high, which will be one of the world's largest. The inhabitants of Komsomolabad Rayon, whose villages come within the area to be inundated by the Rogun reservoir, and a number of scientists have urged that the height of the future dam be reduced, and they requested an unscheduled meeting which took place on 31 August.

I asked Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin to give us his impressions and to speak of the purpose of his trip to Tajikistan.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] [broadcast in progress]...problems and matters that require to be decided not only by the local and republican bodies but also by the center. The Rogun problem is now so acute that it requires a very great deal of consultation with people above all and with specialists, and the adoption of a decision that would satisfy almost everyone, if not everyone. The meeting in Komsomolabad rayon, where there were several thousand inhabitants from all the villages, showed that such a compromise is possible, and I think that in a few days the republican press will carry the five points which we agreed and for which all the several thousand people voted at Komsomolabad.

We discussed with the leadership of the republic a number of other problems, too. On the whole I am satisfied with the trip. I have a fairly clear idea of the local problems in Tajikistan, and I shall, of course, make every effort in some way to help and tackle the acute problems that now exist in the republic.

[Madzhidov] Tajikistan is one of the country's backward republics from the socioeconomic viewpoint. In this respect how do you see the transition from January 1991 to self-management?

[Yeltsin] As far as the people and their culture and intellect are concerned, I liked the people very much. Perhaps the strongest impression from the trip was my meeting with people. As for social affairs a certain amount of neglect for many years in tackling these problems has brought about the fact that they have indeed now become exacerbated. This applies to the shortage of schools and children's establishments and to problems regarding municipal services, and so on. Whereas a few years ago people were able somehow to tolerate this, now they are no longer able to do so. Therefore it is necessary to tackle them now considerably more energetically than they have been tackled up to now.

I looked over a house-building combine, and the fact that it is being utilized by only 20 percent at the present time is simply annoying. I do not say disgraceful, but it is annoying that, although one has the potential to double and treble housing construction, this potential is not being used. This is bad. [end recording]

Historian Views Khrushchev's Removal

LD0409111389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1006 GMT 4 SEP 89

[Text] Moscow, 4 Sep (TASS)—The events of 1964, when Nikita Khrushchev was removed from his post as leader of the party and state in the USSR, still attract attention, but no one has yet answered the main question: What was behind the change of leadership—a top level coup or the beginning of a new turning point in the country's development, writes Yelena Zubkova of the History of the USSR Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences in the edition of the latest issue of CPSU Central Committee journal KOMMUNIST.

In implementing changes in the country following the death of Stalin, Khrushchev and the members of his leadership embarked along a path of partial changes and improvements. But, by the middle of the sixties, they had already reached the realistic limit of these changes, the author writes. Khrushchev's political possibilities and experience had by that time been substantially exhausted. But the whole of society also stopped at the same threshold.

The author notes that following the removal of Khrushchev, executors who were unaccustomed to making independent decisions came to lead the country. For this reason, when the time came for them to make decisions they turned out to be unprepared for such a role. This gave rise from the outset to the half-hearted character of the policies of the new leadership which came to replace Khrushchev

A certain turning point did occur in the mid-sixties, the article says. But it was insufficient to secure for Soviet society the depth of reforms which might bring the country to a qualitatively new level. The country was simply not yet ready for this.

History, the article says, knows cases when, in such a situation, an abortive turning point in a country's development becomes substituted by a political coup, which masquerades as a turning point, and claims to be hallowed by its aims and ideas.

"The events which followed October 1964 can be considered a classic example of such a 'quiet' coup. As a result, a new stage in the country's life was initiated, on the expiration of which the country found itself on the threshold of a crisis which is so tangibly felt by all of us even today," the author concludes.

Slyunkov Chairs CPSU Commission Meeting

LD0109193889 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—The Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's Commission on Social and Economic Policies today approved a package of proposals for upgrading scientific and technological progress management in the course of radical economic reform.

The meeting was chaired by Politburo member Nikolay Slyunkov.

The proposals will be generalised by the Central Committee's Socio-Economic Department with regard for suggestions coming in from the communist parties of constituent republics, regional and city party committees.

The commission's conclusions will for the basis of preparations for a national conference on problems of scientific and technological progress.

'Threats' to National Interests Examined

LD0409141189 Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Expounding on the problem of genuine and alleged national interests of the Soviet Union, the journal KOMMUNIST, mouthpiece of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, says in its latest issue: "Permanently concerned about the external menace, we have in many ways overlooked the emergence of qualitatively new threats to our national interests."

Philosopher Igor Malashenko writes in his article "Interests of the Country—Alleged and Genuine" that the Soviet Union's capability of repulsing an outside threat had grown unprecedentedly in the seventies and eighties. The USSR had achieved parity with the United States as regards the key parameters of its military potential, had boosted appreciably the overall fighting power of its aremd forces and had become a global power. But at the same time we have considerably dropped behind the United States as regards the growth rates of the gross national product and labour productivity. The Soviet population's living standards now rank among those of states, hoding 50th-60th places in the world. The Soviet Union is 32nd as regards life expectancy, 50th as regards infantile mortality. In short, the Soviet Union's national interests are in danger and the situation has to be rectified. But this requires funds, which are yet spent otherwise...

It was believed for a long time that the Soviet Union's military might should at least correspond to the potential of its principal rival—the United States. This placed the USSR in a position of a constantly "answering" side, whereas the United States "set the tune" in the competition. The arms race "on an equal footing" turned to be a tremendous burden on the Soviet economy. The share of military spendings in the Soviet national product is approximately 1.5-fold bigger than that of the United States, whereas the share of expenditures on public health is 60 per cent below the American level. But does the Soviet Union really need to "keep up" with the United States, let us say, in the maintenance of the known "strategic triad"? The soviet Union is perfectly able to ensure the combat stability of its nuclear potential without "parity at all costs," without new bombers and missile-firing submarines, KOMMUNIST says.

The Soviet Union has always linked its security with the victory of socialism on an international scale. We believed that the Soviet union's position in the world would be more reliable if more states were to embark upon the road of socialism. Hence the growth of geopolitical elements in Soviet policy. This has brought about a situation when the country was drawn into a competition for world spheres of influence which requires tremendous material resources. In the meantime, the future of socialism should be decided primarily within Soviet society and resources must be released for the needs of perestroika, which are now swallowed up by competition with the USA in the "Third World." According to available estimates, aid to the developing countries amounts on the whole to 1.7 per cent of the Soviet national product, which is more than the corresponding figures for the most developed nations. And this is hardly acceptable in conditions of the country's grave financial and economic situation, the journal concludes.

Economic

'Free Economic Zone' Planned in Northwest

LD0109[illegible] Moscow TASS in English [illegible] GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Leningrad September 1 TASS—By TASS correspondent [illegible]:

The coast of the Gulf of Finland and the adjacent territory with an area of 8,000 square kilometers in north west Russia is going to receive the status of a "free economic zone."

The centre of the zone, which will include five cities and 30 settlements with a total population of more than 200,000, will be the old city of Vyborg.

Many people in the area, who engage mainly in woodworking, ship-building and agriculture, will now be given an opportunity to master new trades to fill jobs at Soviet-Western joint research-and-production enterprises, planned to be established there.

District Council Chairman Nikolay Smirnov says that the area has great potential as a free economic zone.

He refers, in particular, to the Soviet-Finnish operation of the Saimaa Canal, which links lakes in Finland and the Baltic Sea, and a large-scale programme of bilateral agreements on the construction and modernisation of pulp-and-paper mills.

Apart from Russians and Finns, Germans, Swedes and Britons are also working at construction sites and production facilities in Vyborg, Svetogorsk, Kamennogorsk and Sovetsk, Smirnov notes.

Professor Vasiliy Fedoseyev of the Soviet State Planning Committee's Central Research Institute said that specialists link the future of Vyborg and the whole of the area with the research-and-production sphere.

"We're ready to propose to Western partners the joint production of such unique materials as diamond film—a promising element of fifth-generation computers, laser technology, optical electronics, and biotechnological products, on the basis of western technology," he said.

"We already have protocols of intent to establish such enterprises with 43 firms from Europe, America and Asia."

The plans are expected to be completed before October 1 and submitted for the consideration of the USSR Council of Ministers, whose decision will enter into force next year.

Oil Official Interviewed on Industry Issues

LD0309230389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] Our correspondent Sergey Omelchenko talks with Nikolay Ivanovich Karkhalev, deputy minister of the oil and gas industry of the USSR.

[Omelchenko] Well, first of all, what are the results with which the industry has arrived at its professional holiday?

[Karkhalev] The targets for well-drilling, for profits, for gas extraction, and for lowering production costs have been overfulfilled in the industry as a whole. Unfortunately, a debt has arisen in fulfilling the state order for oil extraction. This is mainly connected with the fact that in the development process in the Varyegannneftegaz association, it transpired that the reserves which we have counted on did not appear.

[Omelchenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, what about the main problems which concern oil workers, gas workers, and construction workers today?

[Karkhalev] Perhaps the main problem is that of accelerating the resolution of social issues. Very many people, especially in western Siberia, live in so-called girder-homes [balka]. We are building a lot, and increasing the construction rate, but this is not enough at the moment.

I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to our construction workers, who have already done a great deal, to seek out additional potential and resources to increase the construction of housing, children's preschool institutions, schools, polyclinics, and shops there, especialy in regions which now have great prospects.

[Omelchenko] Well, what about the oil and gas equipment itself? After all, it, too, requires great improvement and renewal.

[Karkhalev] Yes, you are absolutely right. The programs for technical reequipment and the assimilation of new types of equipment worked out after Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to western Siberia are, unfortunately, miscarrying in many respects. It would be desirable for the machine-building ministries to really help us. We have now been forced to consider the question of developing our own machine construction.

[Omelchenko] The technical and social problems have recently engendered another problem: the interethnic one. Take, for example, Tengizneftegaz.

[Karkhalev] Various figures have been cited for the excess labor forces, in Novyy Uzen in particular: 2,000 or 2,500, but when a detailed examination was begun it turned out that there were 800 of them, mostly women. And in Uzen we are now already experiencing a very acute shortage of personnel, primarily elevator operators, drillers for capital repairs to wells, and operators for underground repairs to wells. We are now training personnel for these professions from the local population on an accelerated basis. However, as preliminary estimates show, the existing labor resources are no longer enough for us.

[Omelchenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, when one flies toward some oil field or other, one always sees oil lakes and oil rivers. Today a great deal depends on our attitude toward ecology.

[Kharkhalev] We are now paying the closest attention to these problems. However, we have a very great problem with the bursting of oil and gas pipelines. This is the principal source of pollution. What is this connected with? We have not yet obtained pipes with internal insulation from the industry, and we have been asking questions and demanding them for a long time now.

[Omelchenko] Well, what way out can you see here?

[Karkhalev] It is clear that, despite the fact that it is complex and difficult, we will build up our own capacities for producing insulated pipes.

[Omelchenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, the Gazprom [gas industry] concern has now been organized. Is it perhaps worth organizing a Nefteprom [oil industry] concern, too, in order to unite machine-building and extraction?

[Karkhalev] Well, we are already taking the first steps in that direction. The main administrations engaged in geophysical work, machine-building, and the transportation and delivery of oil have already withdrawn from the ministry's composition and have formed a concern or association.

Gas Industry Official Views Developments

LD0409082189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 3 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interview with Gas Industry Deputy Minister V.A. Budarin by correspondent V. Flyarkovskiy on the occasion of Oil and Gas Industry Workers Day]

[Text] A vocational day is not just a good occasion for celebration; it is also a good occasion for summing things up, for working out new ways of solving problems. [video shows reporter in a control room with a wall display and a computer operator]

The search begins at the top. This signboard is soon going to change. [video shows building with a signboard reading "Ministry of Gas Industry"] This is going to be the country's first socialist concern, gas concern. So what's the difference?

[Budarin—identified by caption] Essentially the concern takes up all the functions, all economic functions; that is, it is one large, major...

[Flyarkovskiy—interrupting] One enormous enterprise.

[Budarin] Like one enormous enterprise. All enterprises and associations which directly form the concern have all the rights and operate in accordance with the law on a socialist enterprise association.

[Flyarkovskiy] Have I understood you correctly? The manager of an association, let's say, Comrade Ivanov, can conclude an agreement with the chairman of a board, Comrade Chernomyrdin?

[Budarin] That's absolutely correct.

[Flyarkovskiy] Well, let's take the pipelines. Recently these have been constantly causing us great anguish. Perhaps the concern is going to have greater opportunities for lowering the risks, improving the reliability of work? Let's be specific: There is now a scientific-production cooperative, Defektoskop, which is asking R6-7 million for making perfect flaw detectors. Would the concern, for example, be able to get that money for it?

[Budarin] Well, if previously we asked the state for the money for all these things, now we earn it ourselves. Depending on how we work, what we earn, how much we earn, now we deal with these things ourselves. If the Defektoskop cooperative suits us, that's where our money will go. [video shows reporter interviewing budarin]

[Flyarkovskiy] Optimism often sees us through difficult situations. And this time, too, we would like to believe that the concern is firmly going to get down to business. [video shows control room]

Agricultural

Ligachev Visits Areas Affected by Chernobyl

LD0109194589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] For 3 days, Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has been familiarizing himself with the work of labor collectives and party organizations of the Tula combine works and Gomselmash production associations. During his visits to the associations, the planning and design organizations, sections, workshops, and later at meetings of the party and economic aktivs, measures for increasing the output of harvesting machines and for improving their quality were examined thoroughly. The visit to agricultural machine building enterprises was also connected with the fact that measures to sharply reduce losses in the agro-industrial complex as the shortest way toward adding to the country's food stock will shortly be examined by a commission of the CPSU Central Committee on questions of agrarian policy.

Comrade Ligachev visited the Braginskiy Rayon of the Gomel Oblast which suffered most as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. During meetings and conversations with rayon inhabitants, he asked how measures to eliminate its consequences were being implemented and visited collective farmers' farmsteads. The CPSU Central Committee secretary paid particular attention to the organization of medical, retail trade, everyday and cultural services for the population under difficult conditions. He described additional measures which are being taken by the center to improve the living conditions of people in regions adjacent to Chernobyl.

Ministry on Foreign Currency Pay for Grain

18240235 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 27 Aug 89 p 1

[Report from the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations: "Hard Currency for Grain"]

[Text] **In August 1989 the USSR Council of Ministers adopted decree No 620 "On Encouraging the Sale to the State of High-Quality Grain of Wheat and Pulse Crops and Seeds of Oil-Bearing Crops in 1989-1990 Through Payment With Hard Currency Released Because of the Reduction of Procurements of Grain and Foodstuffs Abroad." Its content was published in the newspaper SELSKAYA ZHIZN of 11 August 1989. At the newspaper's request the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations explains the preliminary procedure for calculating freely convertible currency for the sale of grain by the farms and also the procedure for its sale.**

The development of the procedure for placing hard currency at the disposal of the kolkhozes [collective farms] and sovkhozes [state farms] in keeping with the government decree is being completed. Farms interested in it will be informed immediately, including through the mass media. (Preliminary information has already been published in the newspapers PRAVITELSTVENNYY VESTNIK No 17 of August 1989 and SELSKAYA ZHIZN of 17 August 1989.)

After the sale of grain and oil-bearing seeds to the state has been completed and the document verifying the data concerning the sale and purchase has been filled out, the grain-receiving enterprise issues the kolkhoz or sovkhoz a settlement voucher for the right to obtain freely convertible currency and the agricultural enterprise sends to the VVO [All-Union Foreign Trade Association] Eksportkhleb of the USSR MVES [Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations] a bill with the settlement voucher attached. On the basis of these documents and after the payments have been received in Soviet rubles from the grain-receiving enterprise for the grain and oil-bearing seeds that are subject to being paid for in freely convertible currency, the association gives the USSR Foreign Economic Bank instructions to transfer the currency to the hard currency account of the releasing farm. The average payments in currency determined by the decree amount to about 60 percent of the current world price for wheat, pulse crops, and oil-bearing crops. In essence they will be paid for at the world price minus state taxes for export operations and a number of other expenditures.

Currency will be used [illegible] at the discretion of the farm on the basis of its [illegible] needs. The [illegible] places no restrictions on this. It can include specialized equipment, [illegible] equipment for processing agricultural products, livestock and other goods and [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and sovkhozes either independently, or this can be entrusted to the corresponding foreign economic associations of the MVES under branch or republic jurisdiction in the profile of their specialization.

If they intend to acquire abroad technology for raising agricultural crops, including "know-how," it is recommended that they consult with specialists of the VVO Litsenzintorg and instruct them to conduct the transactions that are most complicated in terms of technique for organization and legal documentation.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes interested in acquiring on the foreign market consumer goods, medications and medical equipment, foodstuffs, and so forth can apply to the VVO Vneshposyltorg or Prodintorg which are included in the USSR MVES and also to the foreign economic associations of the USSR Ministry of Trade, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, the USSR Ministry of Health, republic associations and other organizations. Purchases can be made by specialized foreign economic associations that have qualified personnel, which makes it possible to conduct the operations under conditions that are most advantageous for the farms.

Advice concerning all issues related to granting services and carrying out instructions from the kolkhozes and sovkhozes concerning foreign economic operations can be obtained in the administrations authorized by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations in the union republics, Leningrad Oblast, the Far East, and the centers of large economic regions—Moscow, Voronezh, Gorkiy, Kuybyshev, Krasnoyarsk, Magadan, Murmansk, Rostov-on-Don, Sverdlovsk, Yakutsk, Yuzhno-Salinsk, and Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy. They also render to the kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises assistance in establishing contacts with the corresponding all-union foreign economic associations that engage in export-import operations for a wide range of industrial and consumer goods.

All-union foreign economic associations of the USSR MVES system and the All-Union Scientific Research Market Institute render all kinds of consultation services concerning market conditions, prices, and conditions for delivery.

Goskomstat Reports Livestock Production in 1989

LD1108[illegible] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT [illegible] Aug 89

[Text] The editorial office has received a report from the USSR State Statistics Committee [Goskomstat] on the purchase of livestock products over the last 7 months. Compared with the corresponding period last year, procurement organs have received [illegible] tonnes more cattle and poultry, [illegible] tonnes more milk, and [illegible] eggs. The most significant increases in their purchases were recorded in Rostov, [illegible], and [illegible] Oblasts and Kabardino-Balkar and Checheno-Ingush Autonomous Republics. [illegible]

Tyumen and Amur Oblasts, as well as in the Maritime Kray and Tataria and Kabarda-Balkar Autonomous Oblast. The data show that the Russian Federation continues increasing the production and procurement of livestock. A great deal of it, however, gets lost before reaching the consumer. A good deal of meat spoils during transportation and processing and this affects adversely the quality of products delivered to shops. Also, farms of Krasnodar Kray and Voronezh and Smolensk Oblasts have reduced the volume of meat sold to the state, while less milk is being supplied by state and collective farms in Arkhangel, Yaroslavl, Kemerovo and some other oblasts. As for wool, the most substantial increases have been recorded in Stavropol Kray, Kabarda-Balkar Autonomous Oblast, and Chita Oblast. In Irkutsk Oblast, however, wool sales to the state dropped threefold, in Bryansk Oblast by half, and in some other oblasts by 20 percent.

Scientific

Nuclear Test Conducted; 'Military' Purpose Noted

LD0209103689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1008 GMT 2 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 2 Sep (TASS)—Today at 0817 Moscow time [0417 GMT] a nuclear explosion with a yield up to 20 kilotonnes was carried out in the test area near Semipalatinsk (Kazakhstan) in the Soviet Union.

The purpose of the test is the refinement of military hardware. An insignificant and short-term rise in the radiation background was observed in the test area. The radiation conditions beyond the limits of the test area conform to the background values.

Manned Space Mission To Be Launched 5 Sep

LD0309194489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Sep 89

[Text] [Announcer Igor Zorin] Now to another theme, a very important one, the latest space news. My colleague, Vladimir Bezyayev, will familiarize you with it. He has just entered the studio. Over to you.

[Bezyayev] I have just spoken with Baykonur. We were checking our space channels because of forthcoming reports, and I was informed that tomorrow, at approximately this very time, we will learn which crew will be launched. Tomorrow there is to be a news conference. Then journalists will be told about the crew that is to be launched.

[Zorin] For the meantime, however, two crews are getting ready.

[Bezyayev] Yes. I will remind you that Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov prepared for this flight, and the second crew is Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin. Incidentally, concerning the previous news item [on a correspondent's visit to a factory in the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic where he interviews workers on the CPSU Central Committee statement on the Baltic situation], I will say that Anatoliy Solovyev was born and worked for many years in Riga. So you see how everything is interconnected.

The launch has been arranged for a time that is inconvenient for all of us. This time is inconvenient for everyone except the ballistics people, but their say is final because the spacecraft, if it is to successfully dock with the station, can be launched only within a strictly defined time frame. So the launch will take place on the night of 5-6 September at 01 hours 38 minutes 01 seconds Moscow time [2138 GMT 5 September]. Our television colleagues will attempt to tell you about the preparation for the launch, but the majority of you, comrades, unfortunately will not see the launch in a live transmission but will become acquainted with a video recording in the morning. We have not yet given up our intention to conduct a live broadcast on the Mayak radio channel.

The crew feels great. True, we will not forget that there are many more cosmonauts preparing for the flight than I have named. There also are two charming monkeys, (Zhakonye) and Zabiyaka, who are to be launched on 8 September on a biological sputnik. Busy preparations are also under way for that flight, but right now on earth the main burden of work has fallen upon the specialists of the so-called surface complex. The rocket and spacecraft systems are being checked. The search-and-rescue services are gearing up for work. Everything is proceeding according to the procedures introduced long ago by Sergey Pavlovich Korolev, and is tried and tested.

After the launch, the flight control center will take over, which is also completing its preparatory operations right now.

[Zorin] Well, just look how much news you have told us 24 hours before the launch.

[Bezyayev] Well, a little more.

[Zorin] Thank you.

Launch, Mission Details Outlined

LD0409130489 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Preparations for launch of the manned Soyuz TM-8 spaceship are drawing to a close at the Baykonur cosmodrome. The carrier rocket and the spaceship are on the launch site and the final checks are under way.

The spaceship, with its crew of Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov, will be launched at 01 38 Moscow time, September 6 [2138 GMT, 5 September]. The cosmonauts are to work aboard the orbital "Mir" complex with two modules—"D" (additional equipment) and "T" (technological) and will for the first time ever use a new Soviet "space [illegible]" vehicle for autonomous movement in outer space. The crew is expected to work aboard the "Mir" complex for sixth months.

The Soviet durable orbital "Mir" station, which Soyuz TM-8 is to link-up with on September 8, has been in outer space since February 1986. The aerophysical "Kvant" module was added in April 1987. The two new modules are to link up with "Mir" in October 1989 and February 1990 respectively.

The "D" module has an air lock and an exit into open space, and all the necessary equipment to work in it. The module will also have various additional equipment for the station and also fuel, water and food stocks. It is planned to have a biological "corner" to test bird growing technology in conditions of weightlessness. The experimental production of superpure semiconductors materials will be launched aboard the "T" module.

Soviet cosmonauts completed the first stage of the use of the "Mir" station last April. Initially, the present expedition crew was to go to the station before they returned to earth. But a delay in the manufacture of the new modules prompted a change of plan.

Further Details Announced

LD0409164989 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Baykonur launch site, September 4 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov:

Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov were endorsed as the crew for the fifth main expedition to the Soviet Mir orbiting station tonight.

The state commission, which took the decision, confirmed the launch date and readiness of all services for the six-month mission.

The Soyuz TM-8 spaceship, which will carry the cosmonauts into orbit, is scheduled to be launched at 1:38 a.m. Moscow time on September 6. [2138 GMT 5 September]

Immediately after the launch, preparations will begin for launching a Proton rocket, which will deliver a "re-equipment module" to Mir. This will be the second major block intended for assembling a multi-purpose research complex in orbit.

Chief flight control officers told reporters that the delivery of the new module will begin a new, more efficient stage in the use of space equipment for scientific and economic purposes.

The bulk of the module's seven-tonne cargo will include research equipment.

Vladimir Shatalov, head of the Soviet cosmonaut training programme, said that the forthcoming mission will be much more intensive than the previous four.

Research equipment, to be operated by the cosmonauts, will include a biotechnical complex and a set of various telescopes and test beds, to be placed on a special platform in outer space and controlled from the central console.

The cosmonauts will also use telescopes of the astrophysical module.

The cosmonauts will deploy a solar battery on the new module and replace some equipment on the station.

The flight programme will include much extra-vehicular work, during which the crew will also test a "flying seat-suit", equipped with an autonomous extra-vehicular travel system.

Baykonur News Conference on Launch

LD0409223689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Preparations for launching a manned spaceship, Soyuz TM-8, are being completed at the Baykonur cosmodrome.

[Correspondent S. Slipchenko, identified by caption] Rockets for manned launches are brought out as night turns to day. The visual side of space exploration has always attracted journalists; it produces images and inspiration. But more and more often it is not only journalists who ask what and who is behind this. If here on earth everything in rocket technology is clear, verified, and precise, the work in orbit, as years went by, evolved for the uninitiated into an increasingly vague form. We used to say: Our people are mastering space. And behind this general expression our people's biographies were lost, programs remained unknown, and the men could not be distinguished. And now, correcting the errors, we are discovering the people, we are describing what they have been doing all their lives, so that it becomes clear what enormous work has been done in our country. Now, when we anxiously look through the papers and worriedly listen to news programs, we have to understand that even at this time we have something to be proud of. [video shows a Soyuz rocket traveling on its transporter-erector, with the transporter platform carrying advertisements for the Elektronika enterprise, the Simvol center, the Novaya Zarya perfume factory and Glavkosmos; the rocket being erected at the launch pad; groups of men looking on]

Today Soviet and foreign journalists met with members of the state commission. And here many of the things that used to be carefully concealed were made public for the first time. For a start, the head of the Baykonur Cosmodrome, Major General [illegible], and other military chiefs were introduced to us. And the question which in the past, during such meetings, was inevitably asked by Western journalists now came from the Soviet side: So, where is the borderline between things military and things civilian in space exploration?

[Begin recording] [Lieutenant General Kerimov, identified by caption] The first rocket which carried the first satellite into orbit and then the first man into space—we agreed to call it the Vostok rocket—was the first intercontinental missile which was naturally created to a military order and was being operated by the military. In connection with this it is no accident that we—I myself, for example, am a military man; there are military men sitting over here—we together continue to operate this equipment to this day. The people who know the rocket and the launch technique continue to provide the manpower for these launchings. And that, you see, is why we get this alloy of the military and the civilians in our space sector.

[Lieutenant General (?Kurizhniy), identified by caption] Side by side with solving national economy tasks in space programs, tasks for the Armed Forces are also solved—that is no secret for anyone. But I would like to tell you that by comparison with the Americans we spend for military purposes one-sixth of the resources that the United States does. [end recording]

[Slipchenko] Well, such a clearly formulated explanation satisfied the journalists. And one more piece of news. Yuriy Pavlovich Semenov, whom we have known for a long time as a designer of orbital craft and stations, was introduced to us today for the first time as general designer.

[Begin recording] [Semenov] In 1988 all space research in the country—and I would like to emphasize that that means television satellites, weather satellites, communications satellites, the Okean satellite which is plotting routes in the Arctic Ocean, the Mir station with all the modules and craft, the Energiya-Buran system, still being worked on—this came to R1.3 billion. [video shows press conference; journalists; a table with the military and civilian Baykonur staff identified on nameplates. The following names can be read: Gennadiy Vasilyevich Sergeyev, Lieutenant General Igor (?Kurizhniy), Lieutenant General Kerim Aliyevich Kerimov, Yuriy Pavlovich Semenov, Major General Aleksey Kryzhko]

The state commission approved the main crew for the space flight. They are commander Aleksandr Viktorenko and flight engineer Aleksandr Serebrov. Their back-ups are Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin. It was also announced today that the new 6-month expedition would cost R90 million. [video shows the crewmen]

Cosmonauts on Cost-Benefit Ratio, Glasnost

LD0409205689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Excerpts] A news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held today at the cosmodrome in Baykonur. It was opened by Lieutenant General Vladimir Aleksandrovich Shatalov, head of the Gagarin Center for Training Cosmonauts. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] Today our heads of space programs, of those who train you for space, told journalists that your program would cost R90 million. The so-called apparent expected economic benefit is in the order of R86 million. Does it depend on you in any way to increase this benefit or, on the contrary, to reduce it? Does it depend on the quality of your work, or is it all prescribed that however you act according to the program the sum will be the same?

[Unidentified cosmonaut] It can always be spoiled at the last moment; but if we increase it, then the planning bodies are not competent in this question. I think that if we do our job it will all be okay.

[Correspondent] What do think of glasnost in space flight?

[Unidentified cosmonaut] Of course it has become more difficult because previously we only had to think of our work but now we have to think about telling the truth about how difficult it is to prepare and carry out the mission, about what manned flights produce. But contact with journalists can only do good because we develop from this contact, we learn to speak fine words just like journalists, although it does not come off sometimes.

[Announcer] You have heard a recording of the press conference at Baykonur in which we included answers to journalists' questions by USSR Pilots-Cosmonauts Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov. [passage omitted]

Radio To Broadcast Space Launch Live

LD0509102889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 5 Sep 89

[Text] Less than half a day remains until the launch of the new space crew. For the moment cosmonauts Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov are resting. Later they will have to carry out some physical exercises and test their final readiness before the start. This is set for 0138 [2138 GMT]. At about 2300 or a little before, the cosmonauts are to enter their Soyuz TM-8 ship, which will take them to Mir orbital station. The crew's work in space has been calculated at 6 months.

At 2330 today [1930 GMT] Mayak's evening panorama, devoted to the imminent space launch, will go on the air.

Spin-Offs From 'Buran' Spacecraft on Display

LD0409173189 Moscow TASS in English 1657 GMT 4 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Thirteen descriptions of technologies and materials used in the Soviet "Buran" reusable orbital ship and "spinning off" into civilian industry, were shown to journalists at a press conference at the Institute of Machine Science of the USSR Academy of Sciences today. These and other most recent elaborations of specialists in the field of machine science will be put on display at the Soviet "New Materials and Technologies" exhibition due to open in the GDR on September 12.

"Buran" 's flight demonstrated the correctness of research and development solutions and reliable performance of all subsystems of the reusable craft", newsmen were told by Konstantin Frolov, who is vice president of the Division of Machine-Building, Mechanics and Control. "Light, technologically-sound and strong materials will now be put at the service of national economy. They will help to reduce spending and increase the life span of machines".

"The Soviet exhibition also aims at commerical objectives. We are prepared to trade with foreign partners displaying their technologies and materials", Academician Frolov said.

Among the two hundred exhibits being dispatched to the GDR there will be missile and space technologies as well as those successfully employed in machine-building and aircraft, energy, and chemical industries. Also put on display will be technologies for processing metals to increase their durability and longevity and protect them from corrosion and there will be composite materials.

CPSU Body Views Scientific-Technical Issues

PM0409141389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
2 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "A Key Link of Economic Reform. Sitting of the CPSU Central Committee Commission for Questions of Socioeconomic Policy"]

[Text] The solution of the strategic task set by the party in the course of perestroyka—to lead the national economy to a qualitatively new level—depends on accelerating the pace of scientific and technical progress. Proposals aimed at improving the management of scientific and technical progress in conditions of radical reform were examined at a sitting of the CPSU Central Committee Commission for Questions of Socioeconomic Policy. It was held 1 September with N.N. Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in the chair.

Having emphasized the importance of the problem under discussion, he noted that the implementation of the task set by the 27th CPSU Congress—to implement a radical reconstruction of the national economy within 10-15 years—would be possible only if the entire totality of organizational, economic, and social factors is activated on the basis of sharply boosting and efficiently utilizing the country's scientific and technical potential.

In order to impart the necessary dynamism to this process it is necessary to intensify the practical orientation of fundamental scientific research and developments, provide an organic link between scientific quest and practical life, and build economic approaches to the management of scientific and technical progress into the current model of economic management.

A report was delivered by commission member K.V. Frolov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The following took part in the discussion of the question: P.A. Amelchenko, general designer for all-purpose tractor-cultivators at the USSR Ministry of Automotive and Agricultural Machine Building; M.L. Aleksandrov, general director of the USSR Academy of Sciences "Nauchnyye Pribory" Interbranch Scientific-Technical Complex; Yu.V. Skokov, chairman of the "Kvantemp" Interbranch State Association; V.I. Trefilov, general director of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic Academy of Sciences "Poroshkovaya Metallurgiya" Interbranch Scientific-Technical Complex; Yu.F. Kosyak, general designer for nuclear power station turbines at the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building; USSR Minister V.A. Durasov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee; Yu.V. Yakovets, chief of department at the USSR Council of Ministers Academy of the National Economy; A.Yu. Ishlinskiy, chairman of the Union of Scientific and Engineering Societies Board; I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building; G.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; USSR Minister of Health Ye.I. Chazov; V.T. Saykin, chairman of Moscow City Soviet Executive Committee; N.P. Laverov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology; V.G. Kolesnikov, USSR minister of the electronics industry; Ye.A. Yeliseyev, first secretary of Kabardino-Balkar CPSU Oblast Committee [obkom]; L.I. Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.V. Sychev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Standards; A.G. Melnikov, first secretary of Kemerovo CPSU Obkom.

The report and speeches offered an objective appraisal of the state of affairs regarding the development of science and technology and the practical utilization of the achievements of scientific and technical progress. It was correctly emphasized that the acceleration of scientific and technical progress remains the crucial problem of perestroyka.

The transition to a new quality of economic growth for the country makes higher demands as regards the efficiency of scientific and technical activity, the introduction of new technology, and the renewal of the production potential. It was noted at the same time that our present potential is still incapable of fully performing the tasks assigned to it.

We lack a precise system for choosing priority avenues in research, and we still have to overcome monopolism with its inbuilt consequences of stagnation, suppression of innovation, and the dominance of bureaucratic structures. The prevailing economic and management mechanism has given scientific-administrative personnel excessive powers in the distribution of resources and the definition of topics for research. Hence the conclusion: Science, just like society, is now in need of democratization and structural reforms. They are needed as much as the increase of investments channeled into this sphere.

In order to achieve real and sufficiently fast advances in the development of scientific and technical progress it is necessary, in parallel with the more efficient utilization of the existing potential, to give some thought to the possibility of creating alternative organizational structures in science with an advanced technological basis and different production relations. Many speakers believe that science makes possible competition not only between ideas but also between investors.

The structure of the network of scientific organizations must acquire a flexibility that makes it possible to respond to the emergence of new activity functions. Its basic organizational link must not be the institute, as at present, but the research collective working on a specific problem. It is this type of collective that must become the main recipient of funding. Incidentally, in developing this idea the participants in the sitting discussed in detail the methods and sources for financing scientific research.

The idea was voiced about the need for some sort of stocktaking of research currently under way. Now it is necessary to objectively and fairly appraise this research in every area. It was noted specifically that the manpower and resources allocated to collectives which have essentially retreated from the advanced frontiers of science and have lost their links with the world research community must be placed at the disposal of effective collectives in order to obtain weighty and swift returns from them.

Much attention was given to the problems of Soviet science's integration with the world's most advanced research processes. Ways and methods for stepping up the exchange of information, specialists, and technology were discussed. Specifically, proposals were made to create temporary and permanent international research collectives and scientific training associations utilizing the useful experience available in our country.

Summing up the results of the discussion, N.N. Slyunkov dwelt in detail on key problems of improving the management of scientific and technical progress such as the radical perestroyka of forecasting and questions of planning research activity, the technical standards of planning, the content of state scientific and technical programs, and the improvement of organizational forms.

It was noted that the role of levers such as taxation, the finance and credit system, price formation, and labor remuneration in the management of scientific and technical progress is growing in the conditions of economic reform. Greater importance is attached to questions of conversion of the Soviet defense industry's scientific and technical potential, as well as to the foreign economic aspects of scientific and technical progress and cadre policy.

The sitting examined and put together a package of specific proposals aimed at creating an economic mechanism for the management of scientific and technical progress. They will be generalized by the CPSU Central Committee Socioeconomic Department with due consideration for materials received by the commission from union republic Communist Party central committees and from CPSU obkoms and city committees.

It was decided that the commission's main conclusions should provide the basis for preparing an all-union conference devoted to the problems of scientific and technical progress. Approval was also given to a proposal to use the commission's materials during the examination of draft legislative acts due to be discussed at the USSR Supreme Soviet session. All this will make it possible to take into account the opinion of a broad circle of scientific and industrial workers and party committees in preparations for the 28th party congress.

Military

Volga, Urals Military Districts Reorganized

LD0109163189 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 1 TASS—The Urals Military District has been abolished and the Volga Military District reorganised into the Volga-Urals Military District as of September 1 in connection with the reduction of the Soviet Armed Forces, it was announced here today.

The Volga-Urals Military District, with its headquarters in the city of Kuybyshev, is the successor of the former Urals and the Volga Military Districts.

Defense Official on Plans To Halve Expenditures

LD3108130889 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The head of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Defense and State Security, Vladimir Lapygin, has made it clear that the Soviet intention to keep cutting its defense budget largely depends on the results of disarmament talks. If those talks succeed this country is planning to cut by half its military expenditures by 1995, a reduction of about R38 billion. He named as a priority of the committee to help the process of conversion of defense industries to peaceful production.

Transcaucasus MD Views Georgia Situation

PM0109104389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[TASS report under the rubric "Interethnic Relations: Monitoring Events" and the general heading "From Confrontation to Dialogue": "Strengthening Ties Between Army and People"]

[Text] The state of work with officer cadres and measures to further improve it in the light of present-day demands were discussed at a session of the Transcaucasus Military District Military Council held in Tbilisi.

The report by Colonel General V.A. Patrikiyev, commander of the district, and the speeches by Lieutenant General A.N. Novikov, member of the Military Council and chief of the district Political Directorate, and G.G. Gumbaridze, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, emphasized that party organs and Communists in Georgia perceive it as their main task to stabilize the situation in the republic to the utmost and to consolidate all of society's forces on the basis of constructive dialogue, the establishment of complete mutual understanding, and concerted action.

Schools' Antimilitary Sentiments Criticized

PM3108094389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Aug 89 First Edition p 4

[Article by S. Mayevskiy, permanent representative of the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Publishing House: " 'Why Do We Need Your Newspaper?...' Or How Krasnoyarsk Views the Military-Patriotic Education of Schoolchildren"]

[Text] As part of my job I inquired into how subscriptions for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA were going at Krasnoyarsk's educational establishments. It turned out that of the 19 schools in Leninskiy Rayon, 5 did not subscribe to the newspaper. The picture was the same in Oktyabrskiy Rayon. I talked with E. Ostroumova, chief of the Rayon Public Education Department. Elvira Sergeyevna, in her words, was "in favor" of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and explained the position with regard to subscriptions to the central military newspaper in certain schools under its jurisdiction as an elementary oversight rather than any "malicious purpose."

This was an ordinary workaday episode. And I would not mention it had I not discussed it with Ye. Martynova, chief of the city public education administration. Unlike her subordinate, Yelena Ivanovna had a different viewpoint with regard to the subscription to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and to everything it stands for:

"You say that schools have not been subscribing to the newspaper?... Each school subscribes to what it needs for the educational process within the framework of the sums allocated to it. And then, why do we need your newspaper? The question of whether we need military studies in school at all is now being decided. For instance, the children are against it. Comrade Yagodin too opposes initial military training...."

So the problem goes deeper and broader. It is a question of schools' attitudes toward training young people for Army service and toward military-patriotic education. Since time immemorial the protection of the fatherland in our state has been one of the prime tasks of all social institutions. And that includes schools. Perhaps schools above all.

This attitude of "your newspaper," the arguments about "superfluous subjects," and the references to the highest authorities and the enviable "consideration for the opinion" of schoolchildren is just one voice in the chorus of those who outrage public opinion by arguing, with the incompetence typical of dilettantes, that we need a professional army and do not "need" military service for a whole section of our young people. This same chorus—either deliberately or through ignorance—likens the need to strengthen the country's defenses to militarization. I think that this phenomenon is doubly dangerous when the seeds of this apology for pacifism are being sown in children's tender hearts.